

## Al-Baz warns of 'explosion'

PARIS (KUNA)—Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's top aide was quoted here as warning against a dangerous explosion in the Middle East Region if the situation there remained as it is.

In an interview with the Arabic-language "Kaf al Arab" magazine, Osama Al-Baz stressed that the Middle East situation can not tolerate further delay in view of the continued Israeli occupation of Lebanon and Palestinian lands.

He further cautioned that Israel's expansionist policy of confiscating more Arab lands and building Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Golan Strip would be conducive to "very serious results."

Dr. Baz, who is also first under-secretary of the Egyptian foreign ministry, added that President Mubarak had affirmed to the American

administration the need for an Israeli pullout from Lebanon as soon as possible, and to embark on earnest and effective talks to reach a just and honourable settlement of the Palestinian question.

Washington pledged to President Mubarak, who visited there last month, to help Lebanon establish its national unity and enable the Lebanese government to exercise full control of the country, he said.

Dr. Baz added that the Egyptian president told the American side that the tentative solution of Beirut's problem does not nullify the fact that the Palestinian question was snowballing each day, and is still an urgent issue.

Under the supervision of the Multi-National Forces, the Lebanese army has been deployed in Christian militia-controlled East Beirut.

## US targets grain to Arabs

WASHINGTON (KUNA)—The Reagan administration hopes to revive sagging US agricultural exports through a subsidy programme aimed particularly at third world states, including Arab countries, according to Agriculture Secretary John Block.

The administration has developed a programme, designed to boost exports of grain and other farm products to developing countries short of cash, Block told a House Committee Tuesday.

The programme blends interest-free direct credit and credit guarantees in a single loan package, and has been used with success already in several countries, including Morocco, the secretary said.

In Morocco's case, "We captured virtually all of the almost two million-ton wheat market, which has been dominated by subsidized wheat from France," Block noted in testimony before the Foreign Affairs Committee.

The "Blended credit" programme will also be used to facilitate the recently announced shipment of wheat flour to Egypt—a move that has drawn bitter opposition from the European Economic Community (EEC), which until now has dominated the vast Egyptian market.

"We are committed to getting US agricultural exports moving upward again," Block told the congressmen, adding that particular attention was being focused on boosting markets in developing countries.

"Besides global recession and the strong dollar, which affect all US exports, agriculture's problems are compounded by huge commodity supplies," the secretary said, referring to recent good harvests.

## Qadhafi calls for civil disobedience in Arab capitals

Nigel Ash  
Observer News Service

Libya has made what is at first sight a radical change in its foreign policy with the rest of the Arab world—a world where it can count on only Syria and South Yemen as friends. It is now trying openly to foment civil disobedience in those countries that fall to follow the Libyan line.

In Tripoli last week, 300 delegates from 17 assorted Arab opposition parties were told by the Libyan leader, Muammar Qadhafi, that since all Arab governments had failed to act while the Israelis invaded the Lebanon and bombarded Beirut, it was their national duty to win power as soon as possible and resume "the war against Zionism."

"Beirut has been burnt while we were all

watching like acrobats round a bonfire," said Qadhafi. Because of Beirut, the Arabs had become "the most despicable and contemptible nation on face of the earth. It has become quite shameful for an Arab to wear military uniform, the uniform of disgrace, because the Arabs lost their position. The Arab leaders compete to give up your countries to America on a tray of gold or silver."

Qadhafi recommended that all Arab opposition parties should mount a huge campaign of passive civil disobedience, sit-ins and strikes. He said he ruled out any campaign of political assassinations and looked instead for spectacular civil disruption.

"I would like to hear that a visit of Philip Habib has been cancelled because the airport workers declined to refuel his plane or bring the mobile steps. I would like to see his president or that king or prince push the aircraft steps to Habib's plane and refuel it, while of-

fering him coffee and food and welcoming him at his residence because the hotel employees have gone on strike," Qadhafi told his audience.

Qadhafi accepted the Syrian government from his strictures because, he said, it had tried to fight the stronger Israeli forces but in a few days had lost 4,000 men, 100 planes, and 500 tanks.

Libya had done its best by arming the Palestinians and "the Lebanese national movement. Regrettably every day the Israelis announce they are loading 100 lorries with arms, mostly from Libya, which they have uncovered in arms dumps." Qadhafi said he would like to know how this had happened but now was not the time to ask.

He proclaimed that he himself had volunteered to command a multi-Arab force in Lebanon but only the South Yemenis had responded.

## \$45m Euroloan set for cement company

By Steven Ross  
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN—The Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC) will borrow \$45 million on the Euro market in a deal being put together, Amman banking sources say. The loan being arranged and underwritten by the Arab Bank Investment Corporation, a London subsidiary of the Amman-based bank. It is expected to be finalised as a "club" or syndicate deal.

Arab Bank Deputy General Manager Munzir Fakhri said the loan comprises the foreign exchange component of a financing project worth up to \$85 million, for the seventh at JCFC's Fuhals cement plant. It will also pay for equipment and other ancillary works at the site, he said.

The Jordan-based Islamic Development Bank has pledged \$30 million towards the project. It was reported that same additional financing will also have to be done in dollars. No details have been released; but the local bank will probably come in the form of a corporate bond issue package of bonds and a loan. The first such package, worth 16 million, financed JCFC's purchase of a sixth kiln last year.

Meanwhile, a large Euroloan for the Jordanian government, also being led by Arab Bank Investment Corporation, is fixed at \$200 million despite earlier reports that the firm, Middle East Economic Digest (MEED) magazine, weeks ago reported that a further \$25 million was expected to be added to the deal with the joining of Banque Internationale Arabe and Libyan Arab Foreign Bank. The deal declined in July. MEED reported in a later issue.

The team of 13 lead managers for the government loan, mainly composed of Arab institutions and others with influence in the Arab world.



Muammar Qadhafi

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## Arafat stays at PLO helm

By a Star Staff Writer  
with agency despatches

AMMAN—Uncertainty continued to prevail concerning the future course of the Palestinian movement this week. A political manifesto adopted by the Palestine National Council (PNC—parliament-in-exile) was open to varying interpretations; but it was clear that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat would continue his diplomatic efforts to seek a just and honourable solution to the Palestinian problem.

Salah Khalaf, Number Two man in Chairman Arafat's Fatah organization, was quoted as saying that the PLO is prepared to accept President Reagan's plan if the United States recognises the principle of self-determination for Palestinians.

In its international edition, the Wall Street Journal quoted Khalaf as saying that he speaks for Mr. Arafat and the majority of the Palestinian leadership.

Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad, disclosed that the PLO had last December entrusted King Hussein to work to obtain such an amendment in the American position before the PLO could declare its acceptance of Reagan's initiative.

The PLO is prepared to let other Palestinians from outside the PLO participate in the peace negotiations, he added.

Addressing the American people Abu Iyad said: "Give us an amended plan to discuss and we are prepared to face the consequences."

### Israeli cynicism

Reactions in Israel to the PNC session were lukewarm and generally cynical.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir stated that the PNC resolutions do not include anything new or any modification of the PLO's declared policy aiming at the "destruction of Israel." Mr. Shamir told a veterans' conference in Jerusalem that if the Palestinians think they can return to Jerusalem by "hiding behind diplomatic efforts" of His Majesty King Hussein, they will be "making a grave mistake."

Israeli army radio said that the resolutions aimed at preserving the unity of the PLO through agreement on the minimum acceptable to all PLO elements.

The Independent Israeli daily Maariv commented that it is not the concern of the PNC to approve the 1 September 1982

peace initiative of President Reagan because this project was not submitted to the Council but to Israel and Jordan only.

### Special relationship

The manifesto adopted by the PNC on Tuesday evening said the Palestinian body could not accept the Reagan initiative which calls for a Palestinian homeland in the occupied West Bank and Gaza in federation with Jordan.

Regarding relations with Jordan the council stressed the special and unique relationship between the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples and urged the development of this relationship to serve their mutual interests. Firm national rights must be restored, mainly the right of return, self-determination and the creation of an independent state.

The PNC confirmed its former resolutions on the relationship with Jordan and advised that the future relationship would be on the basis of confederation between two independent states.

On Palestinian relations with Egypt, the PNC rejected the Camp David agreements and "autonomy" plan they entailed.

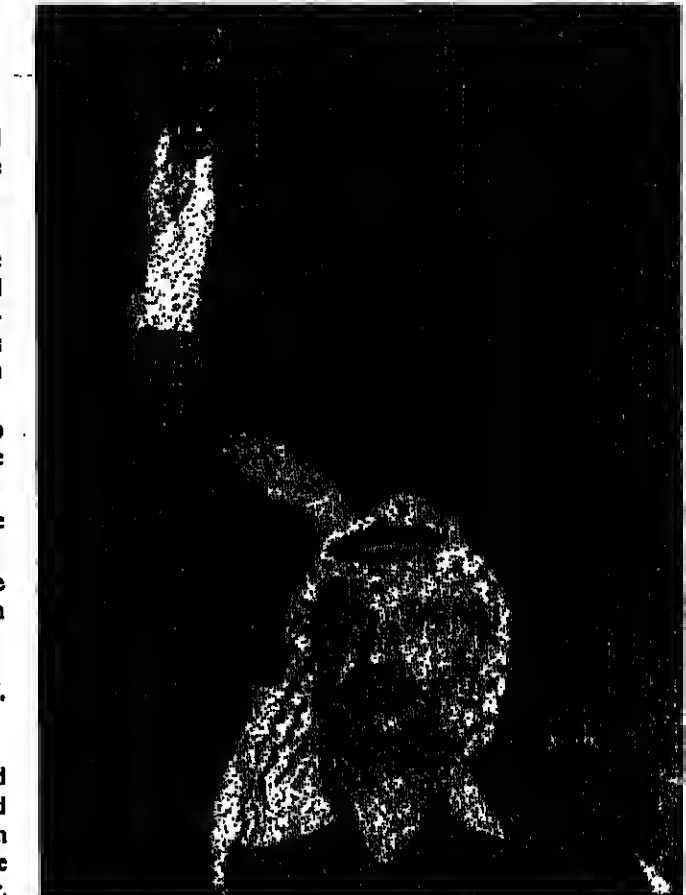
The council requested the deepening of relations with the people of Lebanon and its nationalist forces, offering them support against Israeli occupation.

Star Special Correspondent in Algiers Abdulsalam Y. Massaruch reports:

The adoption of the PNC's political manifesto was preceded at a long bargaining session of the executive committee and PLO leaders. "Rejectionist" leaders such as George Habbash and company wanted a specific rejection of the Reagan peace initiative which was thought to be the price for agreeing to Mr. Arafat's re-election both by the executive committee and in the full PNC session.

The removal of the last hurdle on the way to consensus came when the PNC executive committee made some changes in the text of the resolution concerning President Reagan's peace initiative. The final draft said that the PNC "refuses to accept" the proposal as a satisfactory permanent solution for the Palestinian problem.

PLO Deputy Commander Khalil Al-Wazir announced the election by acclamation of the PLO executive committee, including Chairman Arafat, Farouk Kaddoumi, Abu Meher Al-Yamani, Ahmad Sudqi Al-Dajani, Tala Najib, Mohammad



Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat votes during the Algiers session of the Palestine National Council

(AP wirephoto)

Khalifeh, Abdul-Rahim Ahmad, Dr. Hanna Nasir (appointed as chairman of the Palestine National Fund), Mahmoud Abbas, Hamid Abu Sitta, Jamal Al-Surani and Mohammad Zuhdi Al-Neshashibi. Dr. Nasir, exiled president of Birzeit University, was chosen to head the Palestine National Fund, replacing Abdullah Al-Dabagh, who has resigned his post.

## Bond finance takes over Jordan market

By Steven Ross

Star Staff Writer

AMMAN—The new wave of bonds has come. The pre-eminence of "clubs" or syndicates of banks as the main means to provide large-scale financing for Jordanian companies is threatened, and has begun to fade, as borrowers and investors turn more frequently to bond issues.

One recent deal exemplifies the new trend: the issue of JD 6 million in bonds to finance projects of the Jordan Hotels and Restaurants Corporation (Rastco). The bond issue was managed and underwritten by three Jordanian merchant banks, and was oversubscribed by JD 115,000.

One year ago, Rastco would probably have got the money through a syndicated loan. At the time the Central Bank of Jordan was encouraging banks to form clubs for such deals, and offered several incentives including reimbursement by which it would take on half of

a bank's outstanding share.

Now, the odds favour bonds. They, too, can be rediscounted, and at a better rate: 7.5 instead of 6.5 per cent.

The Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC), which is arranging financing to cover its purchase of a seventh kiln, will also be borrowing in dollars locally (Star 17/2/82, page 24). Most observers agree that JCFC will probably resort to bonds, including a high-level manager for one of Amman's most active banks in the field of syndicates.

In addition to the rediscounting advantage, bonds attract investors because interest paid on them is untaxed. For the borrower, they are also cheaper because no commission is added to the interest rate (interest is fixed at 9 per cent a year on all lending). Front-end fees (one-time charges such as distribution and advertising the bonds) tend to be cheaper.

A JD 15 million loan-bond package in February 1982 financed JCFC's purchase of its sixth kiln. Before that time, corporate financing in the over-JD 1 million range had been done exclusively through syndicated loans. Foreign banks took the lead in this field. The market took off with a JD 3.1 million syndication to finance the construction of the

Sheraton Hotel in 1978, led by Citibank. Another large early loan was to the Arab Aluminium Company for JD 2.5 million, led by the Industrial Development Bank.

Some very large loans were signed in 1981 and 1982, starting with a JD 12 million syndication for Alfa, the Royal Jordanian Airline, to refinance its purchase of Lockheed and Boeing aircraft.

### Interest rate controversy

A total of JD 92 million in syndicated loans were extended between 1979 and 1982. Tourism was the biggest borrower, with the industry and mining sectors in second and third places. Corporate bond issues for public shareholding companies in the same period totalled around JD 40 million.

The JD 6 million bond issue in the first JCFC package was the first to be underwritten by Jordanian commercial banks. The Arab Bank, Arab-Jordan Investment Bank, Jordan Securities Corporation and the Industrial Development Bank each took a 25 per cent share.

The fixed 9 per cent interest rate has in the past been the centre of some controversy. The regulation, which had its origin in the usury

law of the Ottoman Empire, applies to all lending including bank loans. Although banks are allowed to charge commission at a fixed percentage beyond this, many feel that the restriction leaves them with an unacceptable profit margin.

Musleh Akel, deputy manager at the Arab Bank, says that because of this, bank loan interest should be deregulated. A floating rate would go up to 12 per cent immediately, he says, but borrowers would still stay on the local market to avoid foreign exchange risk. "The floating interest rate will come," Akel predicts. "The only question is when."

This assessment is disputed by others. Adnan Al-Hindi, executive director of the Central Bank of Jordan, agrees that the spread between the rate banks charge for loans and what they pay on deposits is too narrow. But he points out that banks regularly exceed 9 per cent on loans by means of their commissions.

The maximum effective annual lending rate (interest plus commission) is supposed to be 10.75 per cent for resident borrowers. But

continued on page 5, Economy

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BEIRUT—A terse police statement reported on Wednesday that three "unidentified men were killed by Israeli fire in a Christian suburb east of Beirut. The report said that mysterious killing took place on Tuesday afternoon in the Monia Verde suburb, a Christian hamlet almost one kilometre away. The report did not disclose further details pertaining to the identity of the victims or circumstances of the development.

Labanese newspapers and the Israeli military published conflicting accounts of the incident.

LONDON—Senior Israeli officials have claimed that the Lebanese government has agreed to integrate the Israeli-backed militia of Sana Haddad into the Lebanese army. The London Times newspaper reported. The paper said the plan was part of new "security" arrangements which would entail Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and eventual Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights. The Lebanese government has been transmitting to Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir during a visit to Beirut a closed meeting of the "impartial police" after the

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## European jet shows itself off



Albus Industrie's A310 airliner

AMMAN (Star) - The Middle East tour of the new A310 passenger jet manufactured by Europe's Airbus Industrie which brought it to Jordan this week is a joint project of Swissair and the West German national airline Lufthansa, says Lufthansa Amman representative Karim Joury. The jet, which arrived in Jordan last Friday, made a demonstration flight from Amman Airport to Jordan last Friday, made a demonstration flight from Amman Airport on Sunday.

The twin-engine A310 is Airbus Industrie's latest product. Its 17-day tour is taking it to seven Middle Eastern countries, and then on to Japan and South Korea. During the tour 19 demonstration flights are planned, including "pilot's flights" to demonstrate the aircraft's flying characteristics to crew members of airlines that are considered potential customers for the A310.

Mr. Joury told The Star that Lufthansa bought 25 Airbus A310s three years ago. It plans to phase the "highly economical" aircraft in on all high-volume European routes, gradually replacing its Boeing 727 Europe liners.

Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, is considering buying the Airbus A310 for its medium distance routes. Attending Sunday's demonstration takeoff from Amman, and the airliner's return, was Ali Chahman and President Ali Ghandour. On board during the flight were the director-general of civil aviation, the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force, the under-secretary of the Ministry of Information, European diplomats and journalists.

Albus Industrie President Bernard Lathiere and Executive Vice President Roger d'Elle are accompanying the A310 during its tour.

THE UNDER-SECRETARY of the Ministry of Social Development, Mr. Mohammad Ali Wardan, is on his way to Britain at the head of a delegation from the ministry for a two-week stay to visit British social establishments for two weeks.

THE MINISTER of Industry and Trade, Walid Asfour, will head Jordan's delegation to the 34th session of the Arab Economic and Social Council to convene in Tunis at the level of experts.

THE MINISTER of Culture and Youth, Mervan Abu Nowar, will head Jordan's delegation to the Arab culture ministers conference to convene in Algiers in May.

THE UNIVERSITY of Jordan is to participate in a number of international exhibitions to be held this year in Baghdad, Damascus, Morocco, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Turkey, Spain, Yugoslavia, Romania, Belgium and France.

JORDAN and 10 other Arab countries have received approval from the Arab Gymnastics Federation to take part in the fifth Arab competition, to start in Tunis on 15 March.

THE ENCOURAGEMENT of Investment Committee, under Industry and Trade Minister Walid Asfour, has agreed to grant tax and government fee exemptions totalling JD 2.03 million to local economic projects as incentives.

ARMOUK UNIVERSITY opened English courses last week aimed at development of society in Karamah and the middle Ghor area. 33 students attended the course.

THE DELEGATION of the Commission of the European Communities in Amman

T. C. O'Sullivan  
DELEGATE

On the occasion of the European Community Spring Festival, under the Patronage of H.R.H. Crown Prince Hassan Bin Talal, the Commission of the European Communities hereby announces to all students in Secondary Schools in Jordan an

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Conditions:  
The competition is open to all students of Jordanian nationality in Secondary Schools in Jordan, being 18 to 18 years of age. The essay should be written in one of the official languages of the European Communities and sent to the Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities in Amman, P.O. Box 228784, before 5 March 1983.

It should be accompanied by a registration form, which is available from the headmaster of each school, and which must be filled in by the student and the headmaster.

The Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities in Amman

T. C. O'Sullivan  
DELEGATE

## King explains views in Europe

LONDON (Agencies)-His Majesty King Hussein on Monday met Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher for talks on the Middle East situation and bilateral relations. The King had arrived in London on Saturday, in the latest leg of a European trip that also took him to Romania and Yugoslavia.

A news despatch by the official Jordanian news agency Petra said the King, on a private visit to England, had told Mrs. Thatcher of the serious consequences of failure of act quickly for Middle East peace, and urged her to lead her country in stronger efforts within the European Community.

Explaining the Arab position, he told the prime minister that dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization is essential in adding momentum to the movement towards peace, Petra said.

Before arriving in London, King Hussein had paid a one-day official visit to Yugoslavia, where he and a



King Hussein meets British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher (AP wirephoto)

high-level Jordanian delegation held talks with President Petar Stambolic and other Yugoslav officials. The King also stressed the urgency of a Middle East solution when he spoke at a banquet in Belgrade on Friday evening.

The trip had started with a one-

day state visit to Romania, which began on Thursday. Speaking at a banquet he hosted in honour of Romania's President Ceausescu, Petra said, the King stressed Arab unity and emphasised the centrality of the Palestinian issue in the Middle East.

## Cost of living grows by 7.4% in 1982

AMMAN (Star)-The cost of living index grew during 1982 by 7.4 per cent compared to 1981, the Statistics Department reports. The index figure, with 1975 taken as 100, rose from 107.7 in 1981 to 115.7 in 1982, they said.

The cost of living index is a weighted figure taking into account the prices of commodities and services during the year. Individual items were indexed as follows (1975 = 100):

Food, 116 points; alcoholic beverages and tobacco, 128.4; shelter 113.2; detergents 103.5; fuel and lighting, 102.2; furniture, 117.3; houseware, 109; transportation and communication 136; medical care 108.4; education 121.

The department put the cost of re-

creation and entertainment at an index of 189.6. Officials attributed the high figure to the increase in the price of cinema tickets.

## Australian due

AMMAN (Star) - Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Commerce G.D. Anthony will arrive in Amman on 13 March for a three-day visit to Jordan, The Star learned. He will meet with Jordanian officials to discuss the Middle East situation and economic and commercial relations.

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# Vandals threaten ancient beauty of Pella



The Civic Complex Church in Pella, a site of frequent vandalism and theft

By Kathy Spillman  
Star Staff Writer

JORDAN VALLEY—Vandalism committed by 20th century visitors to the ancient city of Pella (modern Tabaqal Fahl) in the Jordan Valley is becoming a serious problem. It is causing damage to ruins that have survived many centuries of human habitation and harsh environmental conditions, including a major earthquake in AD 658 and the Persian conquest of AD 610.

Pella of the Decapolis is one key link between modern Jordan and its ancient past. The site, rich in Roman and Byzantine antiquities, helps provide continuity to Jordan's heritage. Pella, which has been inhabited since the

dawn of human culture, reached a high level of civilization in the later periods.

Pella, which is located about 25 kilometres north of Deir Alla, is mentioned in Egyptian texts as early as the 19th century BC. The city attained relative greatness during the Greco-Roman period and became an important Christian centre after the Christian community of Jerusalem fled the city during the Roman siege of AD 73. During the Byzantine period, a number of prominent bishops resided in Pella.

The two most impressive sites of Pella are its Roman temple and Byzantine church. Unfortunately, they are also the victims of vandalism and looting, as the ancient city is getting more popular with tourists, Jordanian and foreign alike.

Amid the stolid grandeur of n

sixth-century Byzantine church, caled n n tell overlooking most of the Jordan Valley plain, Dr. Anthony McNicol, a co-director of the Australian archaeological expedition to Pella, told The Star about the damage. The inhabitants of the Tabaqal Fahl village are innocent of damage to the site, he says.

"We are getting an increasing number of school groups and tourists to Pella, told The Star about the damage. The inhabitants of the Tabaqal Fahl village are innocent of damage to the site, he says.

Dr. McNicol lifted half of the time column base in the church. The other half lay on the ground near the site. "This base was neatly broken in half by someone who picked it up and threw it against a rock. The person wanted to prove how strong he was. We think it is these people who are vandalizing the site."

This had been done to at least two bases. Mr. Brian Bowen, who was preservation of antiquities for the British Overseas Development Administration, suggested that the site bases be stacked and secured with each other to stop further breaking.

The church's multi-coloured, tiled pavement in the central area also being defaced. The tiles are loose and are either left at the site or carried away. It was also recommended that the tiles be cemented to the floor to prevent further damage.

Archaeologists excavating a suspect that there is a well-organized band of thieves stealing objects at the site, for re-sale in Jerusalem. It has been reported that some of the stolen objects were sighted in Jerusalem 24 hours after their theft.

Looting is also becoming an increasing problem, as more visitors take advantage of Pella's picturesque, well-landscaped and ideal climate for picnics. For example, a group of Jordanian students visiting Pella Thursday afternoon strewed the floor of the Roman temple with hundreds of eggshells rather than dispose of them in a plastic wastebag.

Director-General of Antiquities Adnan Hindi angrily surveyed the damage. He said the department had requested the Ministry of Education to have all school teachers in the school system to teach their students about the necessity of being respectful when visiting antiquity sites. "People continue to demonstrate a lack of respect, regardless of what you do," he lamented.

Dr. Hindi proposed the posting of a full-time guard to protect Pella from such instances of negligence and looting. But he said this was not immediately feasible given the department's limited budget for this year.

Dr. McNicol's team, from the University of Sydney, has made very important finds at Pella. The most important was the finding of what seems to be a treasure box beneath the altar of the Byzantine church.

The reliquary, larger than any for that period, had a bronze cover was held firmly in place with iron. Inside was a small sarcophagus-shaped box which contained a silver jar and a band of gold around it. While Dr. McNicol speculated that it was a treasure box, the team planned to take it back to Australia for further study.

Another find of interest was a remarkably well-preserved glass dish in a great Roman tomb. The tomb has had to be sealed because of safety hazards, and in an attempt to preserve its contents.

Given the limited funds available, such all-out measures may be the only way of protecting Pella's treasures from vandalism and neglect.

## An unstable week

By Mamdouh El-Ghaly

THIS WEEK'S unseasonable weather has greatly affected activity in the market. The daily handling average dropped during the last three days of this week was 70-85 per cent lower than on the first day.

These conditions and the very active trading in Cairo Amman Bank shares for the third consecutive week have led to a deviation around the daily average of 74.3 per cent. It seemed as though buyers were determined to buy as much as they could, despite the snowstorm and the generally quiet market.

During the week from 15-21/2 February more than 330,000 shares were handled, at a value of JD 1.47 million divided among 900 contracts. A decrease of 30.2 per cent compared to last week. The daily average of transactions came to JD 295,000, and deviation came to 14.9 per cent of total dealing.

The banks sector maintained the lead due to the high demand for Cairo Amman Bank shares. This sector occupied 68.1 per cent of the total market dealing; a rise of 9.9 points compared to last week. Four banks out of 14 took 85.2 per cent of the sector's transactions, or 58.1 per cent of the market total. Cairo Amman Bank represented 70.8 per cent of the sector's transactions or 48.2 per cent of the total; Bank of Jordan had 6 per cent of the sector (4.1 per cent of the total); followed by Jordan Kuwait Bank had 4.8 per cent of the sector (3.3 per cent of the total), and the Jordan-Gulf Bank accounted for 3.6 per cent of the sector's dealing or 2.5 per cent of the market total.

The industry sector played in second position, with 22.3 per cent of total transactions. A slight drop of 0.5 points compared to last week. Four companies out of 24 occupied 67.1 per cent of the sector's transactions or 14.9 per cent of the total. Jordan Petroleum Refinery took the lead with 20.7 per cent of the sector or 4.6 per cent of the total, followed by Jordan Glass Industries (17.2 per cent and 3.8 per cent); Jordan Cement Factories (14.7 per cent and 3.3 per cent) and Arab Chemical Detergent Industries, representing 14.5 per cent of the sector's transactions or 3.2 per cent of the market total.

The services sector ranked third, occupying 5.8 per cent of total transactions, a drop of 7.9 points. Two services companies out of eight occupied 59.5 per cent of the sector's transactions or 3.5 per cent of the market. National General Investments took the lead with 37.8 per cent of the sector's transactions or 2.2 per cent of the total, and International Contracting and Investment took 21.7 per cent and 1.3 per cent respectively.

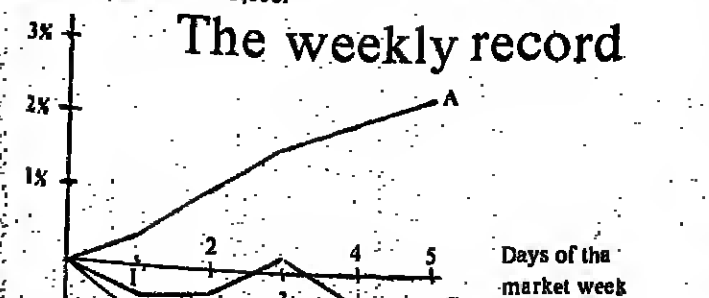
The insurance sector accounted for 3.8 per cent of total transactions, a drop of 1.7 points compared to last week. Jordan-French Insurance, out of seven companies in this sector, occupied 72.8 per cent of the sector's transactions or 2.8 per cent of the market total.

The shares of 53 companies were handled this week. Fourteen companies' shares improved in price, including Jordan Timber Processing Industries, which closed at JD0.800 up from JD0.760; Paper and Cardboard, at JD 2.830 up from JD 2.700; Petrol Insurance, at JD2.460 up from JD2.350; Arab Baglo Exchange, at JD1.610 up from JD1.540, and Jordan Tanning, closing at JD1.850 and opening at JD1.800.

The shares of 28 companies dropped in price. The General Export Company closed at JD 2.630, down from JD 2.900; Jordan Glass Industries at JD 0.750 down from JD 0.800; Jordan Pipes Manufacturing at JD 1.520 down from JD 1.580; National Industries closing at JD 1 down from JD 1.040, and Arab International Hotels at JD 0.810 down from JD 0.840.

Eleven companies recorded no change in share prices. The record figure showed a drop of 0.4 per cent at the end of the week. Hesitation was measured at a daily average of 0.5 per cent; but both the record figure and hesitation fluctuated widely throughout the week.

In the over-the-counter market, 435,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 483,000.



A. Companies showing a share price increase this week  
B. Companies showing a share price decrease  
C. The mean record figure

## Imports, exports grow by 14%

AMMAN—Jordanian exports increased during the first nine months of last year by 14 per cent over the same period of 1981. Jordanian exports amounted to JD 143.83 million, according to the Department of Statistics.

Exports during September 1982, however, were 14.6 per cent lower than they were a year earlier. In September 1982 amounted to JD 10.319 million while in September 1981 they amounted to JD 12.087 million.

The main exported items were phosphates, animal

hides, tile, plastic pipes, paints, medicines, furniture, fruit juices, vegetables and fruits.

Jordanian imports of foodstuffs, cars and spare parts, domestic electrical appliances, clothing oil, iron and furniture increased during the first nine months of 1982, also by 14 per cent.

Imports came to JD 800,098 million compared to JD 700,812 million during the same period of 1981.

## Bond finance takes the lead

continued from page 1

higher rates have become standard practice, and the Central Bank tolerates them. The maximum for non-resident borrowers is 14 per cent.

Banks are not lobbying for any rate change at the moment, Al-Hindi says. But the time has come to reduce deposit rates. This would help give banks a reliable spread of 3 per cent or more between rates paid and rates earned.

One foreign banker in Jordan, who did not wish to be named, pointed out that bankers had started asking for deregulation around the time of the large syndications in 1981, when they also bid the deposit rate up to around 8 per cent. International lending rates were very high at that time. But now, if Jordanian rates were floated, they would probably drop, rather than rise.

### No secondary market

In discussing bonds, financiers are unanimous in bemoaning the lack of a secondary market for their resale. Despite the establishment of six financial corporations or merchant banks in the last few years, activity in this area is still very slow. "Everybody is afraid of buying an issue and not being able to sell it," says Finance and Credit Corporation Director Maher Shukri.

This lack is the centre of activity by both the Central Bank and finance corporations. They are "going by stages" to try to set up a secondary market, says Dr. Hindi. Efforts are no concentrated on the latest two issues of government bonds, worth JD 6 million each and issued in 1982.

The Amman Financial Market (AFM), where some trading in bonds already takes place, will "possibly" be the main medium of exchange, Dr. Hindi says. But bonds could also be traded between banks directly, as "interbank deposits," to avoid AFM fees and speed transactions.

The Central Bank wishes to use the secondary bond market as a tool of monetary stabilisation, buying and selling according to the liquidity of the market. Banks are also reported to be willing to turn to the bond market as a treasury instrument; but the traditional conservative caution of most parties is holding back the realisation of these new ideas.

They are also obstructed by what Jordan Securities Corporation General Manager Sa'id Hammami calls a "fragmented" market. Certain issues of government development bonds, and issues by public sector companies, are sold only to the public, excluding financing agencies; interest and other terms sometimes differ depending on who is buying the bonds.

Dr. Hindi says the latest two

government issues had no such differential, and were therefore candidates for the secondary market.

### Loan-bond deals

Though financing through bonds is now preferred, the Central Bank wishes to see more loan-bond packages arranged, Dr. Hindi said. He says this is to take into account the interests of all involved: the banks who issue loans; the finance corporations who underwrite bonds; the borrower, and the government, which gets no tax revenue from bonds.

Beyond this, all commentators agree on the need for further innovations. "This is why we began granting licences to finance corporations," says Dr. Hindi. "But they have to create something new. They are now really working on it." The corporate bond idea is already four years old.

The lack of a secondary market has also put a damper on some of the commercial banks' efforts. The foreign banker pointed out that three years ago they had tried to introduce a system of certificates of deposit, but "couldn't get it off the ground." This was one aspect of a problem that he said was one of "depth," guessing that 70 per cent of the money deposited in commercial banks is for terms under six months.

Banks get a "pretty healthy return on capital," he remarked. Most reported a 20 to 30 per cent upswing in profits during 1982 as compared to 1981. But without a satisfactory maturity profile it is hard to attract long-term deposits.

Suggestions for achieving this in-

clude lowering the current 20 per cent reserve requirements for longer term deposits, and a graduated deposit rate scale.

The foreign banker also suggests that the lending rate does not have to be fixed at one level, be it 9 per cent or whatever. These rates could also be weighted as could the rediscount rate, to contribute towards market depth, or to suit the socio-economic objectives of Jordan's plans.

But the commercial market has begun to feel the tremors of the new wave of financial innovations. Observers repeatedly point out that the market is limited in size, and the more finance corporations are created, the less business there will be for the banks.

Such things as tax-free bonds at 9 per cent mean a large lender, in the 50 per cent bracket, would have to charge 18 per cent to equalize his after-tax profits.

Bankers also admit that assets have tended to grow much more slowly than the demand for cash. What is seen as a high potential for deposits from foreign sources is only beginning to be tapped.

However, Jordan is a "good, healthy, growing market," the foreigner says. Central Bank Governor Mohammad Sa'id Nabulsi has a "very positive approach." Despite any concern over the interest rate squeeze and threats from the new concerns, he assesses Jordan's domestic finance structure as being more well-rounded than that of any other Arab country.

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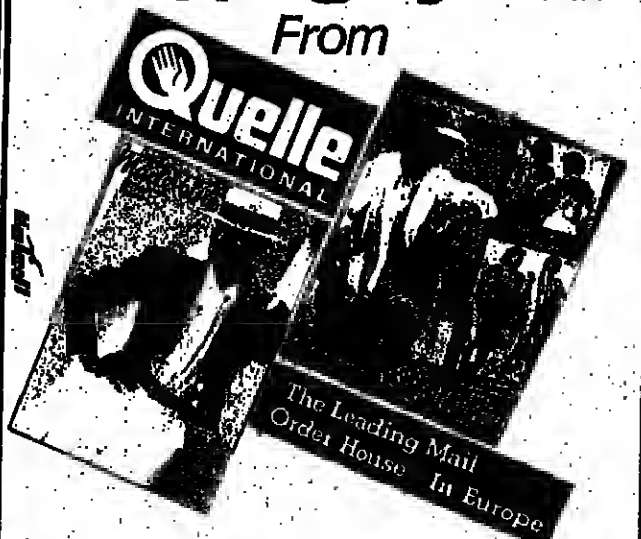
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# California sinks into the red but the Queen sails on

By William Scobie

LOS ANGELES (ONS) — The state is more than \$2 billion in the red. Eight million angry taxpayers are receiving IOUs, not the rebate they expected. Unemployment is at record levels.

Long lines wait outside soup kitchens. Thousands sleep in rescue shelters or on the streets. A new conservative Governor demands absolute power to deal with the crisis.

Hard times in the Deep South? A Depression-era scenario from New York?

No. This is California, the state Queen Elizabeth will visit aboard the royal yacht Britannia, for an expensive whirl of gain balls and lavish receptions.

President Reagan will fly in from Washington to entertain the Royals at his mountain-top ranch. Presidential jets will be placed at their disposal.

With California on the verge of bankruptcy, unable to meet its own monthly state payroll without heavy borrowing from the banks, some legislators here are asking if Her Majesty's visit is really necessary. "A better time could have been picked," and one legislator, a thug. "It's nice that the Queen will be parading with Ronald and Nancy Reagan and our new Governor but we could sure use some of the tax money for relief in my district."

In the midst of a national recession, beautiful California is tasting the bitter fruit of its five-year orgy of tax-cutting without curbing spending.

"We knew Jerry Brown (the former Governor) had almost doubled public outlays in his eight years in office, despite the huge tax cuts mandated by voters in the same period," said a California banker. "But no one foresaw a financial mess this bad. We've blundered into the same trap as New York in the 1970s."

The decline and fall of the "golden state" from the euphoric heights of the Brown regime's heyday, when government had amassed a \$4 billion budget surplus, has stunned citizens, if not economic gurus who predicted something of the sort when California's tax cut binge began in 1978.

California's tax base was eroded time and again by voter demands. Proposition 13, the notorious property tax reduction which

started a nationwide movement, has eliminated \$42 billion from state revenue. Income tax was indexed to inflation. Inheritance tax was abolished.

Meanwhile the free-spending Brown administration bailed out elites and public services from that \$4 billion surplus until all was gone.

Other state funds highways and suchlike were plundered. Recession sent California's jobless rate close to 12 per cent, well above the national average, increasing the need for relief cash.

Now nobody likes the medicine prescribed by the new Governor, George Deukmejian, 54, a Reaganomics-minded Republican who took office on 3 January. "Duke" as he likes to be called, is calling for massive cuts in social programmes, in aid to the needy and in university budgeting.

He has announced a plan to carry over half the deficit, estimated at \$2.4 billion for this fiscal year, into next year's budget. He has asked, rather desperately, that the state legislature step aside and hand him absolute powers to do all this.

"It's dictatorial. It's absurd," says State Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. "The Governor wants to sweep half the problem under the rug until next year. Voters are calling me to ask if that means they need pay only half their taxes this year."

For the second time since the Great Depression, California has been forced to borrow from state banks - \$400 million so far - to pay bills.

New debts of \$1.7 billion fall due next month. The state treasury is readying plans to pay employees, teachers and suppliers with promissory notes.

Some \$2.2 billion due to taxpayers in rebates cannot be found; they will be sent "non-negotiable state warrants" - IOUs - until new tax sources are found.

Governor Deukmejian, a solid family man who believes in budget-balancing, is fighting Democratic efforts to relieve some of the tax cuts of recent years.

Already his top financial aides are hinting that if the rescue plan does not work, Governor "Duke" will break his campaign promises and raise new taxes.

## Call for energy dialogue

By Tunji Oseni

VIENNA (OPECNA) — The Brandt Commission has called on oil-consuming countries to begin a dialogue with OPEC on energy.

In its report "Common Crisis: North-south co-operation World Recovery" released in Bonn, the Commission says dialogue should consider arrangements beneficial to all parties, including safeguarding supplies to the poorest countries and to term stability in oil markets.

It proposes an agency "with full international participation" to increase energy production in developing countries and to institutional support for energy research and the dissemination of results.

It says over the past three years, there has developed widespread complacency about future stability of energy supplies and prices. "This complacency cannot be justified," the Commission says.

A large proportion of the reduced oil consumption is a result of recession, and may therefore be reversed as soon as world economic growth revives.

In most developing countries, more efficient use of energy production is usually impossible because of their stage of development, they require more energy per unit of output for economic growth.

Political instability or regional tensions could bring about increase in oil prices.

Since the price of oil is denominated in US dollars, "There is dramatic appreciation" of the dollar means that for many developing and developing countries, "the real price of oil has dropped marginally in real terms, if not nil".

Fluctuations in oil price lead to changes in the terms of trade ability to service debt and distribution of global payments, which create instability in world trade and financial markets. The Commission also forecasts that consumers should avoid "undue complacency" about the future of oil, as there would be "potential supply deficiency" in the late 1980s.

Nor, would it be possible to meet energy needs exclusively by sources other than oil by the end of the century. Even the "modest" expected growth rates in energy demand will not be met unless oil production was able to rise more than expected in this stage.

The overall health of the international economy clearly requires a stable price for oil, when the oil price goes down, the price of oil exporters to import, to service debt and to provide employment for workers from other countries is diminished. It damages exports, other foreign exchange earnings and jobs in consuming countries.

## Arab-British relations ease at last

By Len Rockingham  
Star London Correspondent

IT NOW looks as if Britain's relations with its long-standing friends in the Arab world, which in the past three months have been somewhat strained, have been patched up by quiet diplomacy and good sense on both sides.

And this quiet breakthrough may, in the end, do more to further the cause of peace in the Middle East than any amount of noisy protestations of friendship.

This is the feeling in Whitehall this week, since it became clear that the long-running dispute over the planned visit to London by the Arab League delegation had finally been resolved.

The visit is now expected to take place around the middle of next month, probably on March 18. Foreign office sources in London are understandably not saying very much about the visit. They would rather leave the public statements to the Moroccan government whose foreign minister, Mr. Boucetta, has been at the centre of the quiet diplomacy with Britain.

Morocco is taking the lead in this affair because it was King Hassan who was asked by last September's Fez summit to lead the delegation of six foreign ministers in explaining the Fez peace proposals to the governments which are permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

The delegation successfully visited Paris, Moscow, Peking and Washington, but just before the projected visit to London difficulties arose.

It became clear that the senior member of the PLO who was a member of the delegation expected to attend all the meetings his

colleagues had with the foreign Secretary, Mr. Pym, the Prime Minister, Mrs. Thatcher, and even the Queen.

Until now the highest level of contact for the PLO in London has been with the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, Mr. Douglas Hurd, and the British government's view is that to arrange meetings at a higher level would require concessions on the Arab side of a substantial kind.

On the Arab side too, there has been a recognition that the delegation might have been more skillful in its handling of the question of the PLO representation for the London visit.

Since the New Year, there have been numerous diplomatic contacts in Rabat and London to work out a formula acceptable to both sides.

It looked as if a formula had been found a month ago, but then the visit was postponed yet again for what the Moroccans called "domestic reasons".

These are thought to have been connected with the sudden death of one of King Hassan's most important generals, General Ahmed Dlimi.

Now that the final points of agreement have been put together in Rabat and London and the visit is scheduled for mid-March, two more much more important questions present themselves.

The first is whether Britain's relations with the Arab world in general can regain their former warmth, and indeed it looks as if this is already happening.

Last week, Mrs. Thatcher sent what has been described as "a very important letter" to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. For diplomatic reasons no details of the letter have been revealed.

But it can be confidently assumed that the letter dealt not only with the question of the Arab League visit to London, but also with British-Saudi relations.

One casualty of the dispute earlier in the year was the invitation to the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Pym, to visit Saudi Arabia and three of the Gulf States. It can be assumed that this visit is now in process of being rescheduled.

The other question concerns what the Arab League delegation will actually talk about when they arrive in London. The original intention was simply to explain the point of view of the Arab leaders who met in Fez, but the past five months that has been overtaken by events.

However, it is now recognized that the delegation's visit to London in mid-March could take on a new importance, since it will follow the meeting of the Palestine National Council in Algiers and come at a crucial stage in the peace proposals which President Reagan has put forward.

Arab leaders would clearly like Mrs. Thatcher's government to take a more prominent and active role in the peace process, and in this they could meet with a positive response.

But Britain itself has a special contribution to make to the Middle East peace process and that contribution comes from Britain's historic and continuing interest in the West Bank and Gaza.

With its Consulate General in East Jerusalem and its wide range of cultural ties with the West Bank Palestinians, Britain has always seen the territories occupied by the Israelis in 1967 as being of central importance to the Middle East crisis.

## Aga Khan seeks green light

By Peter Jarocki

ROME (ONS) — The Aga Khan's resignation last month as managing director of the Emerald Coast Trust has upset Sardinians — both local officials and islanders.

The resignation followed a warning last June that the hereditary leader of the Ismaili sect of Muslims and his board of directors would quit if local authorities had not given the go-ahead for a \$1.2 billion tourist project by New Year.

Immediately at stake is the creation of 30,000 new jobs. The project, Porto Cervo, was to have served 70,000 tourists (three times as many as today) and rival Monte Carlo as the biggest tourist centre in the Mediterranean.

Chiefly to blame for the delay is foot-dragging by local authorities. The project's first draft was presented in 1972, but gathered dust for four years until falling prey to a new regional housing development law in 1976. It was re-presented in 1979.

In 1980, the communal council of Arzachena, the village which would be most affected by the development, refused to grant planning permission for more than 4.5 million cubic metres — 1.5 million less than the Aga Khan sought.

In 1981, the regional parliament agreed to the original six million but only if \$320 million of the \$800 million investment was spent on agriculture, zoology and supporting handicraft industries.

The Aga Khan agreed to these conditions, but just as it seemed that the project was about to get the green light Arzachena's young mayor put a spanner in the works: the project would ruin a beautiful, unspoiled stretch of Sardinian coastline, he said.

Fearful that Emerald Coast may now abandon Sardinia, the regional parliament is putting pressure on the 12-year-old mayor to approve the plans. A final decision is expected by the end of this month.

## Electricity from non-oil sources

JAKARTA (OPECNA) — By 1994 more than 80 per cent of Indonesia's electricity would be generated from non-oil sources, Subroto, Minister of Mines and Energy said.

Addressing a ceremony in Kertajaya, West Java where the country's first geothermal power plant was commissioned, he said more electricity projects, running on alternative energy, would be built.

The 30 Megawatt Kamojang power plant would produce 210 million kilowatt hours a year. (Here it is to be run on oil. It would have burnt 400,000 barrels a year.)

Under the fourth five-year development plan, starting in 1984, power generation through geothermal energy would increase by 360 Mw.

Under the current third five-year plan the figure is expected to reach 140 Mw. Electricity generated by hydropower would be increased by 2,166 Mw, during the fourth five-year plan and by 2,398 Mw. In the fifth plan period (1990-95).

According to Subroto, Indonesia's hydro-power potential was estimated to be around 10,000 Mw. Of this total, about 3,500 Mw is located in Java and Bali, 1,100 Mw in Sumatra, 1,400 Mw in Sulawesi and the remainder on other islands including east and west Nusa Tenggara, Irian Jaya and Maluku.

Coal-generated electricity would be increased by 1,980 Mw, during the fourth five-year plan and stepped up by 5,913 in the next.

## Cash dries up

By Sandy Close

With inflation now at its lowest point in a decade, one wonders what this much-lauded Reagan success really means for mainstream folk in whose name the battle against inflation was waged. Very simply, it means that money is going the way of jobs: There's still plenty around for those with access; but there's less and less for the lower middle class and the poor. How has this happened?

The one good thing about the '70s, for all the fears about runaway prices, was that at least the rapidly growing global economy was generating lots of cash — cash that sloshed fairly freely around the world.

Poor people trapped bits of it here and there, and the alternative economy boomed. Middle class people bought on credit, betting that inflation would burn up their debts. But for the government, all that cash moving around outside any central system meant the United States was much more vulnerable to global crises, and has less and less control over the economy at home.

From late 1979 on, the power (that is, moved to bring the world money supply back under control. With Saudi Arabia obliging the United States by producing an oil glut, once-surge oil prices were capped; interest rates were hiked; sucking money from the Eurodollar markets back into the United States; consumer spending was curbed through recession and high interest rates; and now consumer dollars are being drawn up into the big banks by allowing them to offer money market investment plans.

The result? Whereas in the '70s, the money supply was like a fresh fall of milk, with droplets of cream spread fairly evenly throughout, today it's like a fall with all the droplets of cream rising to the top.

Middle class consumers may console themselves that prices have stabilized; but they have less money to spend, no incentive to borrow, and a harder time getting loans.

The picture for the poor is even more ominous. As the ocean of cash lapped to the top, the once-booming alternative economy may now be drying up. This could set off tremors at the social bottom which recession alone did not.

## In Brief

• **ABU DHABI** — The Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Company (ADGC) set a new LNG production record in 1982 of 2.2 million tonnes compared to 2.03 tonnes the previous year.

The Dns Island project was initiated in 1974 with British Petroleum, Compagnie Generale des Petroles, Mitsui and Bridgeport as partners.

A purchase agreement was signed with Tokyo Electric Power Company.

ADGC was registered in Bermuda with the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (NOC) holding 20 per cent of the shares.

The plant was designed to produce 2.2 million tonnes of liquefied natural gas and 1.7 million tonnes of liquefied petroleum gas annually.

It has been producing a daily 7,500 tonnes of liquefied gases for export to Japan.

• **DAMMAM** — Technical improvements introduced at the Saudi Fertilizer Company (SFC) have resulted in an increase of 4,000 tonnes of Urea fertilizer production in 1982 compared with the previous year.

Last year's output amounted to 347,000 tonnes, of which 88 per cent was exported.

Improvements at the plant included the installation of equipment and higher standards.

The company recently set up a research department to carry out studies on new processes especially involving natural gas and its derivatives, in which capital and technical investments are made.

• **JAKARTA** — Indonesia faces the prospect of a coffee surplus of more than 140,000 tonnes by the end of September, according to Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Soedarto.

He said the International Coffee Organization (ICO) had set a quota for the current year of 144,000 tonnes, including 2.6 million grams carried over from the previous year.



## Austria in space scheme

VIENNA (FPS) — During the second phase of the Advanced Systems and Technology Programme (ASTP) of the European Space Agency (ESA), Austria will participate in a four-year programme.

According to a statement from Dr. Wolfgang Lothaller, of the Austrian Space Agency (ASA), the project in question is mainly concerned with the study of transmission conditions in new broadcasting systems.

As for details of the programme, two specialized institutes in Graz, the capital of the Federal Province of Styria, will construct a weather radar system being superhigh-frequency radio waves in a device so designed that it can be used for research into the propagation of radio waves (microwaves) comparatively short electromagnetic waves, especially between 100 cm and 1 cm, and 1 centimeter in wavelength.

The State department's report last Monday estimated that four million people, including 10,000 political and religious prisoners, were working in a nation-wide system of 1,100 labour camps in the Soviet Union.

Furthermore, the programme will concentrate on exploring and determining possibilities of transmitting via satellite extremely comprehensive volumes of data within a very short period of time.

## Report rejected

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda has rejected a US State Department report that claimed there were four million forced labourers in the Soviet Union working on the Siberian gas pipeline and other projects.

"The report is chronically lacking in facts but instead is pathologically rich in figures," the paper said.

The State department's report last Monday estimated that four million people, including 10,000 political and religious prisoners, were working in a nation-wide system of 1,100 labour camps in the Soviet Union.



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## Middle East in Brief

### Islamic University request rejected

GAZA—Israeli authorities rejected a request by the delegation of the Islamic University Trustees Council for drawing a part of university funds deposited in Bank Laumi. The delegation was asked to demolish all temporary building installed within campus before they could release any funds.

### Islamic centre to open in Brussels

BRUSSELS—A museum for Islamic arts and civilisation will be set up in Brussels in the near future, to be financed by Saudi Arabia and will bear the name of King Khalid. The project dates back to 1978 when King Khalid visited Belgium. Sources from the Islamic Centre in Brussels reported that this is the first museum of its sort in western Europe which will exhibit Islamic arts and civilisation through works to be donated by Islamic countries.

### Lebanon to respond to Kahan report

BEIRUT—"The Voice of Lebanon" radio speaking for the Phalangists reported that the Lebanese foreign office sent cables to Lebanese embassies containing Lebanon's views on Kahan's report. The report accused the Phalangist party and its militiamen directly for the execution of the massacres. In the meantime, information circulated here said that the government of Lebanon is preparing a reply to accusations contained in Kahan's report. "Arab Week", a Lebanese weekly reported that presidential circles are discussing the possibility of a reply to statements by Sharon and to other issues contained in the report but considered by those circles as untrue.

### Al-Ahram warns of more massacres

CAIRO—Al-Ahram newspaper warned Tuesday against further massacres against Palestinians in South Lebanon following the discovery of 15 bodies of butchered Palestinians outside their camps in South Lebanon. "It is high time for the world's society to take a move for saving those victims who will be subjected to the ugliest form of torture and revenge on the hands of Israel and its agents," the paper said.

### Former Golan governor suspended

TEL AVIV—The Israeli Magistrate Court issued an order to suspend the former military governor of the Golan Col. Shmuel Dotan, on charges of bribery. Police said that the accused who is 66 years old received bribes from persons giving driving tests or requiring the certification of documents from the ministry of communications, where the accused is working at present.

## middle east



Zia and Reagan: The US provides the machinery for Pakistan to protect the Gulf

## Pakistan aspires to be Gulf's defender

By John Stokes

KARACHI (ONS)—There was a flurry of diplomatic protests last month when Pakistan took delivery of six American F-16 fighter bombers, the first instalment of 40 the country is receiving under a \$3.2 billion US aid package.

Warsaw Pact countries appealed to Pakistan to stop its arms build-up, the Moscow Press called the supply of F-16s a principal stumbling block to peace in the region and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi once again told Washington she considers the arms package a direct threat to India.

The arrival of the F-16s has pushed up the arms race in the region by much more than one notch. India has no equal to it and in the next few years is bound to seek similarly advanced (and outrageously expensive) air craft.

The Pakistan Air Force (PAF) has been increasingly pampered since General Zia's military regime came into being. At the beginning of this year Pakistan received the last of 32 Mirage-5 planes it had ordered from France.

The latest Mirages are equipped with the devastating Exocet anti-ship missile and Air Chief Marshal Muhammad Shamim told a gathering of PAF officers that the planes, stationed near Karachi, would help to keep Pakistan's sea-lanes clear.

The PAF is building new bases along the entire length of Baluchistan's coastline, which faces the Arabian Gulf, and other bases are being built along the border with Afghanistan, the largest at Sibi, south of the Bolan Pass.

The latter would be extremely useful not only for containing Russian over-flights but also for keeping a watch on Baluchistan's rebellious tribesmen, some of whom are sympathetic to the regime in Kabul.

These military developments spring from ambitions that go far beyond the security of Pakistan's air space. They are another step towards a powerful Islamic arms alliance. The PAF has been training fighter pilots from oil-rich Arab coun-

tries for two decades. Now, as Saudi Arabia and possibly other Gulf states receive the F-16, that close co-operation will increase.

Pakistan is the only neighbouring Muslim country with a technical and military infrastructure capable of absorbing sophisticated new weapons. In December Saudi Arabia's army chief of general staff visited Pakistan with a high-powered delegation. Significantly he did not watch field exercises but toured Pakistan's fledgling weapons industry.

Officials here have said that President Zia is desperately keen to set up an independent arms manufacturing base that could rival India's and at the same time serve Arab needs. Pakistan has the technical ability but no money; the Arabs have money but lack technical ability.

One of the first items on the agenda for Pakistan-Saudi co-operation could be an overhaul plant for the F-16s.

The idea of a pan-Islamic arms industry was first mooted in 1974 when Pakistan and many Arab countries were keen to set up armaments factories in Egypt. The idea was dropped after the signing of Camp David.

Pakistan has close ties with all the countries that make up the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) that is now planning to co-ordinate defence of the Gulf, plans which include collective air reconnaissance and defence, co-ordinating the training and arming of the six countries that make up the GCC, and the creation of a joint technical base.

Pakistan has the ability to help in all these aspects and, with Pakistan Mirages already patrolling the Gulf sea lanes, the GCC is expected to ask Pakistan for greater help.

During President Zia's tour of the United States in December, he repeatedly told journalists Pakistan would not be offering bases for Washington's Rapid Deployment Force. Instead Pakistan would be going ahead with helping local defence efforts.

Given the acute anti-Americanism of the Middle East, and Pakistan's economic, cultural and religious ties with the Gulf, it seems to be a sound policy.

## Jericho mayor backs Jordan's peace efforts



Mr. Khalaf

By Tawfik 'Abid  
Special to the Star

AMMAN—Mayor of Jericho Mr. Karim Sabri Khalaf, included His Majesty King Hussein's

policy to serve the Palestine cause. Events and experiences have proved he is the only leader who works sincerely for the restoration of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine and the liberation of Arab lands from Israeli occupation, he said.

Mr. Khalaf appealed to members of the Palestinian National Council to support King Hussein's efforts in the international circles for gaining further support to the Palestine cause.

Mr. Khalaf expressed hope that the meetings of the PNC will adopt resolutions that will back up the peace process because any delay in this respect will reflect harmfully on the residents in the occupied territories and will assist Israel in digesting the Arab land faster.

He told The Star in a special interview: "The West Bank is subjected to a vast settlement. The occupation authorities seized thousands of dunums of land to establish settlements to absorb new immigrants and to

serve other military aims. The occupation authorities can seize any lot of land and there is no one to prevent the Israeli army from moving its graders to open new roads or to level other areas for the purpose of setting up new settlements."

The Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement is inevitable because it is imposed by the unique relations between the two peoples. There is no force that can separate them because they share the same destiny and the same interests, Mr. Khalaf added.

People in the occupied territories suffer from high taxes and the high cost of living. Every now and then we hear the authorities raise the prices of essential items and devalue their currency thus increasing the burden on many families. Many families cannot meet their daily needs due to the additional tax levied as customs duty or as fees on permits and licences, he explained.

"We have been surprised recently by a new additional tax called 'the tax of the security of Galilee' and started collecting this tax in Jer-

usalem. Publications were distributed showing the monthly rate of this tax to be paid by every citizen."

On the Reagan peace project he said it contains some positive points and there is the more positive Arab project. Israel will reject all peace projects and can only yield to them through heavy American pressure. "The solution acceptable to us is that based on Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territories including Jerusalem, self-determination, and the recognition of the legitimate rights of Palestinians," Mr. Khalaf said.

The ban imposed by the military governor on receiving funds from abroad until after a permit is procured, had its effect on services rendered to residents and on all projects such as water and electricity networks, water reservoirs, tourist projects, Mr. Khalaf said.

"I have discussed with the officials of the Ministry of Occupied Territories the financing of those projects from funds allocated for the benefit of people in the occupied territories. I have obtained approval for the allocation of funds required for the projects of the municipality," he said.



# middle east Israel, land of hate

By Chaim Bermant  
Observer News Service

Occupied Jerusalem  
I expected trouble from the beginning. Peace Now is in no sense a pacifist group. Its founders and most of the members have seen action in more than one bloody campaign, and not a few of them served in what men called Begin chose to call the Peace for Galilee operation, and which has since become widely known as Sharon's war.

The movement was formed after the Yom Kippur war when many young officers began to suspect that Jews were perhaps as much to blame for the continuing Middle East conflict as the Arabs. It was Peace Now which organised the massive rally attended by some 400,000 people last September which finally forced the Government to set up a public inquiry into the Beirut massacre.

When the inquiry published its findings last week it was widely assumed that the government would immediately accept its recommendations, for even Begin's harshest critics think, or like to think, that he is a democrat wedded to the rule of law. Moreover his own Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir, has said emphatically that the government had no options in the matter, but one cabinet meeting was held on Tuesday without a decision, and another on Wednesday again without a decision.

Instead there was talk of accepting some of the recommendations of the report and rejecting others, or referring the entire report to a sub-committee of the cabinet, while all the time Ariel Sharon, who was at the very centre of the controversy, and who was required by the commission to resign or be fired, made it clear that whatever happened he would stay put where he was.

Peace Now therefore organised a demonstration in Jerusalem which would march on the prime minister's office to call for Sharon's resignation.

It was scheduled for five in the evening and I arrived both as sympathiser and observer. Within minutes the crowd had grown to over 1,000, among them several hundred people who were clearly there not as supporters of the demonstration but with the intention of

breaking it up, and who sent up harsh cries of "Begin, King of Israel", "Traitors", "Terrorists" and "You should be strung up with the inquiry commission".

As the numbers multiplied their cries grew louder, harsher, more menacing and they rushed at the demonstrators to tear down their placards. The police were too few to restrain them and, as I am rather heavily built, I found myself acting as auxiliary policeman intervening between attackers and victims, but there was a moment when I myself had to be restrained when someone spat in my face.

I felt as if I had been attacked by a venomous reptile, and I could have killed the man, a wizened cretin with buck teeth. And so it continued from Zion Square, where the rally began, to the prime minister's office two miles away.

Police reinforcement were called and tried to separate demonstrators from assailants though as far as I could see no troublemakers were actually arrested. What impressed me most about the crowds and the commotion was not so much the slogans, the chanting, the name calling or the violence, but the arms flailing menacingly in a style made famous by the supporters of Ayatollah Khomeini.

I had heard and seen it all before in Israel during the 1981 general election, the same chants, the same slogans and the same flailing of arms, when Begin's supporters broke up a meeting addressed by opposition leader Shimon Peres.

There are in fact two Israels, what I like to think of as Jewish Israel committed to decency, justice and the rule of law and what, for want of a better expression, might be called Sharon's Israel, which makes itself felt in slogans and violence. And it is not, as is often thought, merely a division between European Jews and those originating from Muslim countries, for one could see among the troublemakers some Jews who were clearly European, or Americans, among them Rabbi Meir Kahane and members of the Jewish Defence League, which is the nearest thing to be found in the Jewish world to a Nazi Party, and who were clearly spilling for a fight. And after all both Begin and Sharon are Europeans.

I suspect that Begin's commitment to democracy and the rule of law are taken too much for granted. He has never disowned the



Peace Now movement: Attracting supporters but facing opposition

mobs who broke up the meetings of the Labour opposition, and he has himself denounced as traitors those Jews who oppose his settlement policy on the West Bank and accept the Reagan plan, and it seems to me that not a little of the violence evident in Israeli political life has received its cue from the prime minister himself.

But few people were prepared for what actually happened on Thursday night. An Israeli grenade, thrown, presumably, by an Israeli assailant, at a Jewish gathering.

Bloodshed is not entirely new to Israel or rather Greater Israel, a term used by Begin's supporters to include the West Bank and Gaza. More than one Arab has been shot and killed by Jewish West Bank settlers belonging

to Gush Emunim, but no one has been actually jailed for such an incident, and it is so long since attempts were made on the life of three West Bank Arab mayors and, again, those responsible were never caught, though Israel's secret service, which is second to none, has never found difficulty tracking down Arab attackers.

I thought at the time: They are attacking Arabs now - it won't be long before they are attacking Jews. It has not happened sooner, then I expected.

The hand grenade attack may of course have been the work of one solitary madman but there are a lot of grenades about in Israel and there is a lot of hatred, to say nothing of more than a few madmen.

Chaim Bermant, a leading Jewish writer, was part of the peace demonstration two weeks ago that ended in bloodshed, with one dead and nine wounded in a grenade attack.

## Viewpoint

### Israel tears Lebanon apart

By Ya'coub Jaber

AS THE Israeli-Lebanese American negotiations continue without a sign of a breakthrough, Israel has used the stalemate to implement its own solution on a vital part of the Lebanese territory by ordering its lackey, Saad Haddad, to deploy his Israeli-equipped and financed troops in wide areas of the south, including the region's biggest city, Sidon. The move has been accompanied by a stepped-up terror campaign against Palestinians living in the area.

Scores of mutilated bodies of Palestinians have so far been found near refugee camps, prompting fears that Israel and its right-wing allies are planning more Sabra-and-Shatila-like massacres.

What is perhaps more significant is that the expansion of Haddad's role came in the wake of the deployment of regular Lebanese troops in East Beirut for the first time in eight years. The deployment was carried out upon the determined insistence of President Amin Gemayel who, as all signs indicate, regards national unity as the prime objective in the agonizing march towards full sovereignty and independence.

But Mr. Gemayel's plans apparently conflict sharply with the schemes of Israel, which seeks to gain dominion through division and the consecration of the internal strife. Ever since it invaded Lebanon, Israel has spared no effort in expanding sectarian conflicts and preventing the war-stricken Lebanese groups from healing old wounds.

It first tried to ignite factional dispute in the mountainous Shouf area by playing on the traditional hostility between the Druze and Maronites. Israel's aim was to set up a Druze militia state closely connected with Tel Aviv. The plan has failed, mainly because the area's inhabitants have resisted it. But there is no guarantee that Israel might not try again.

All this has been going on with the Lebanese government unable to do anything except voice protests in private talks with the Americans, who so far have declined to make their position clear on Haddad's future role and on the expansion of his forces' control of the south. This expansion is a move which clearly jeopardizes American and Lebanese efforts to create a strong central government in Beirut, capable of re-establishing its authority over the whole country.

Israel's determination not to leave Lebanon before it tears it apart can only be filled by effective US intervention. The argument that Lebanon constitutes a test for US ability to solve Middle East problems is just as valid as ever. So let us wait and see what Mr. Habib can achieve now.



Al-Rai Al-Aam

## Arab Editorial Opinion

MAJOR TOPICS tackled by the press this week include the meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers, the situation in Lebanon, especially in the South where Saad Haddad force have expanded their deployment and the terror campaign launched against Palestinian civilians in the area.

The Saudi newspaper Al-Bilad notes that the support given by the Algiers PNC meeting to the Arab Fez peace initiative brings the Middle East closer to peace and stability.

It adds that the PNC support of the Fez initiative will enhance collective Arab action which is now backed by constructive bases for peace in the region.

The Qatari English-language newspaper, Gulf Times, praises the spirit which prevailed over the PNC's discussions, saying it indicates that reports about a deep split among Palestinian groups are not true.

Expressing the hope that the PNC will end its meetings with agreement on all outstanding issues, the paper calls on Arab states to give continued support to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

On the role of Saad Haddad in South Lebanon, the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Rai Al-Aam writes that Haddad's "state" is the cover which Israel is depending on to implement its plan of making Lebanon yield to its dominion.

"Through the expansion of Haddad's state, Israel has taken the first step in dividing Lebanon. It would say that it is ready for withdrawal but it is not responsible for Saad Haddad whose state will guarantee his military dominance in addition to the normalization and opening of borders in the South", the paper remarks.

Commenting on the same subject, Kuwait Times writes that the brutal military display of Haddad's forces in Sidon last Monday was an extraordinary demonstration of what Haddad and his men are out to accomplish: dismemberment of their country.

The paper points to the fact that Haddad and his henchmen are equipped, clothed, fed, trained and led by the Israelis.

It says Haddad's militia is virtually a subsidiary of Israel's monstrous war machine, adding that this leads to the conclusion that Israel wants Lebanon to be torn to bits.

"Now, the question is does the US want this awful conspiracy against the integrity and independence of Lebanon to succeed?"

If not, what does president Reagan propose to do the prevent such a crime from becoming an unalterable fact of life in the Middle East? Kuwait Times asks.

It goes on to say that Mr. Reagan is committed to Lebanon and cannot stand idly by in this grave situation if he still wishes to be taken as the paragon of peace and justice in the Middle East.

Haddad's role has been commented on by another Kuwaiti newspaper, Al-Watan, which writes that it is difficult to accept the idea of the continuation of the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations while Israel pushes Saad Haddad's force to announce openly that the borders of "Free Lebanon" state extends from Naqura to Sidon.

It expresses the view that Lebanon, while trying to hold on to its independence and national sovereignty, cannot say "no" to the Israeli practice because it cannot bear the responsibility of the results in addition to the inability of the Arabs to give it the necessary support to enable it to cope with the situation.

"We hope it will not be long before the Arabs wake up from their long coma, making Lebanon able to say 'no' in a loud and powerful voice", Al-Watan concludes.

The Cairo newspaper Al-Ahram warns that defenceless Palestinian civilians in South Lebanon could face another massacre.

It recalls that UNRWA has recently announced the discovery of 15 bodies of Palestinians near refugee camps in the South, thus prompting fears that Israel, which has the area under its full control, may be preparing the ground for another Sabra-and-Shatila-like massacre.

"Israel has just enabled its lackey ally, Saad Haddad to expand his

control in the area, and at the same time, it is preventing the UN peacekeeping forces "Unifil" from playing any effective role in protecting innocent civilians there", Al-Ahram remarks.

It concludes by saying that after the Kahan report on the Sabra and Shatila massacre was released and the killers have evaded punishment, it is high time for the world community to take effective steps to protect innocent Palestinian women and children from being butchered at the hands of the Israeli-backed militia.

Commenting on the PNC meeting in Algiers, Ad-Dustour newspaper in Amman writes that judging from statements and speeches made at the sessions, the strategy of the "moderates" in the PLO calls for making some concessions to the "hardliners" with a view to preserving PLO unity. This is a sublime goal that should be reached, Ad-Dustour says.

"We cannot belittle the difficult task facing some Palestinian leaders. They are trying to maintain PLO unity by satisfying some of the hardliners' demands, and at the same time responding to the appeals of Palestinians living under occupation, who have become convinced that the only way out lies in political action in co-ordination with Jordan."

Ad-Dustour goes on to say that despite these difficulties, the PLO must stand up to its historic responsibilities.

"We hope it will not be long before the Arabs wake up from their long coma, making Lebanon able to say 'no' in a loud and powerful voice", Al-Watan concludes.

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"Israel has just enabled its lackey ally, Saad Haddad to expand his

possibility at this very critical stage and give priority to the tragic situation in the occupied territory.

The paper remarks that the PLO may be forced by hardliners to reject Middle East peace efforts. But the more important question is to what extent such rejection will contribute to rescuing the Palestinian land and its people, bearing in mind that the liberation of the Palestinian land is the goal and the justification for the PLO's existence.

Ad-Dustour also warns that rejection of peace initiatives could give the Israeli-created Village Leagues a free hand in negotiating with Israel, in accordance with a programme drawn up by the Israelis.

On Lebanon, Al-Rai writes that after 17 rounds of US-Israeli-Lebanese negotiations, not a step has been taken in the direction of the ultimate goal: namely, withdrawal of invading Israeli forces from Lebanon, and re-establishment of the Lebanese government's authority over the whole country.

"This stalemate indicates that while Lebanon and Israel are sticking to their original positions, the United States is sticking to the role of a mediator and not that of a full partner," Al-Rai writes.

The paper points to the dangers stemming from such US inaction, adding that the extent of US help to Lebanon will be the true criterion for Washington's ability to achieve peace in the Middle East.



Sharon hands over the Defence Ministry

Al-Rai Al-Aam

## Pro-Arab Jews ex-communicated by US Rabbinical court

THREE RABBIS, Members of a 13-person body called the Supreme Rabbinical Court of America have excommunicated five prominent Jewish Americans who opposed Israel's recent invasion of Lebanon.

Those singled out in the ancient religious rite of excommunication were Massachusetts Institute of Technology linguistics expert, Noam Chomsky, M.I.T. Nobel laureate Salvador Luria, Rabbi Everett Gendler of Andover, Massachusetts, Albert Axelrod of Brandeis University, author-editor Alfred Lillenthal, who publishes "Middle East Perspective," and two others.

In a special ceremony the Rebbis, dressed in judicial robes, read prepared statements that proclaimed Dr. Lillenthal and the others completely excluded from the Jewish faith. The court said the order bars those named from burial in a Jewish cemetery, from taking part in reading before the synagogue Ark, and from employment by any Jewish organization.

Among the twenty-five spectators at the ceremony a handful of critics, including Helen and Walter Wertheimer, openly questioned the court's authority stating, "You are talking about the Middle Ages. We're living in the 20th Century. You have no authority to speak for the Jewish community here."

The dissenters were forced to leave the courtroom.

Dr. Lillenthal called the rabbinical action another example of pressure to silence critics of Israeli foreign policy. He stated:

"I may be excommunicated from Zionism - I hope that I have earned that - but no one but God may excommunicate me from my religious faith. Zionism is not Judaism, and Judaism is not Zionism."

(Voice)

### Star Classified Section

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### Vacancies

- A large Turkish construction firm in Amman is looking for a typist, with a very good command of Arabic and English and preferably speaking Turkish or French. Anyone who is ambitious enough should phone our office on Tel. No 666264 between 3 and 5 O'clock afternoon.
- English-speaking Ceylonese males and females looking for part-time jobs in foreign houses. Contact Tel. 667302, a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Wanted Young male or female to work in the field of publicity and advertisement applicants must possess the following qualifications: 1-General secondary certificate at a minimum level. 2-Experience in this field not less than 1 year. 3-Spoken and written English is preferable.
- Applicants with private cars are preferred. Kindly contact Telephone 667302 during work hours.



# Snow...

The heaviest snowfall in recent memory this week cloaked the streets of Amman in unaccustomed beauty—but life in the capital went on, as these pictures by Jacquelyn Lentz and Hassan Ibrahim for The Star show



Lentz



Ibrahim



Lentz



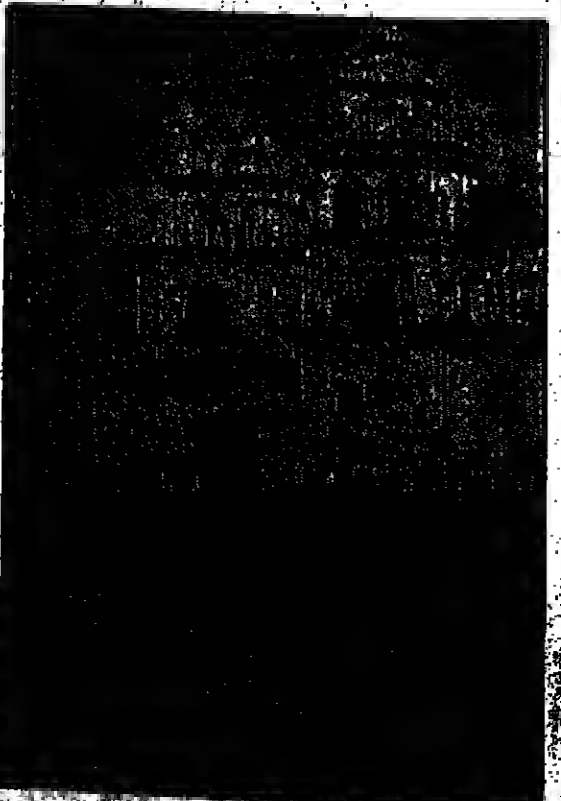
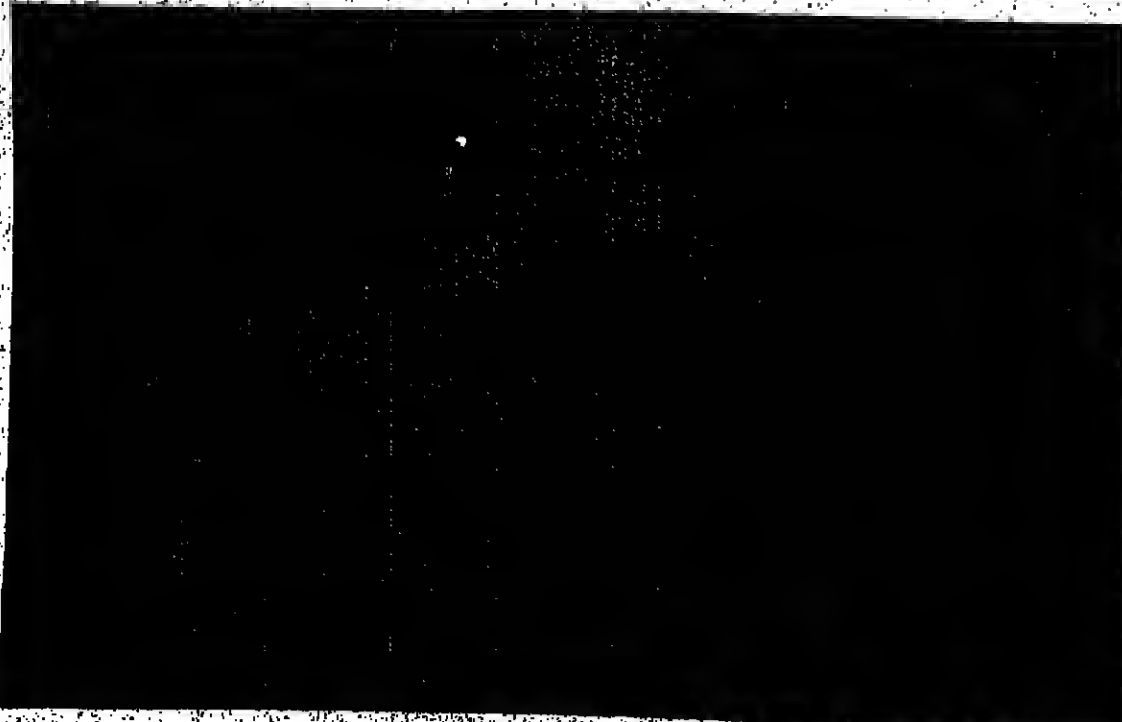
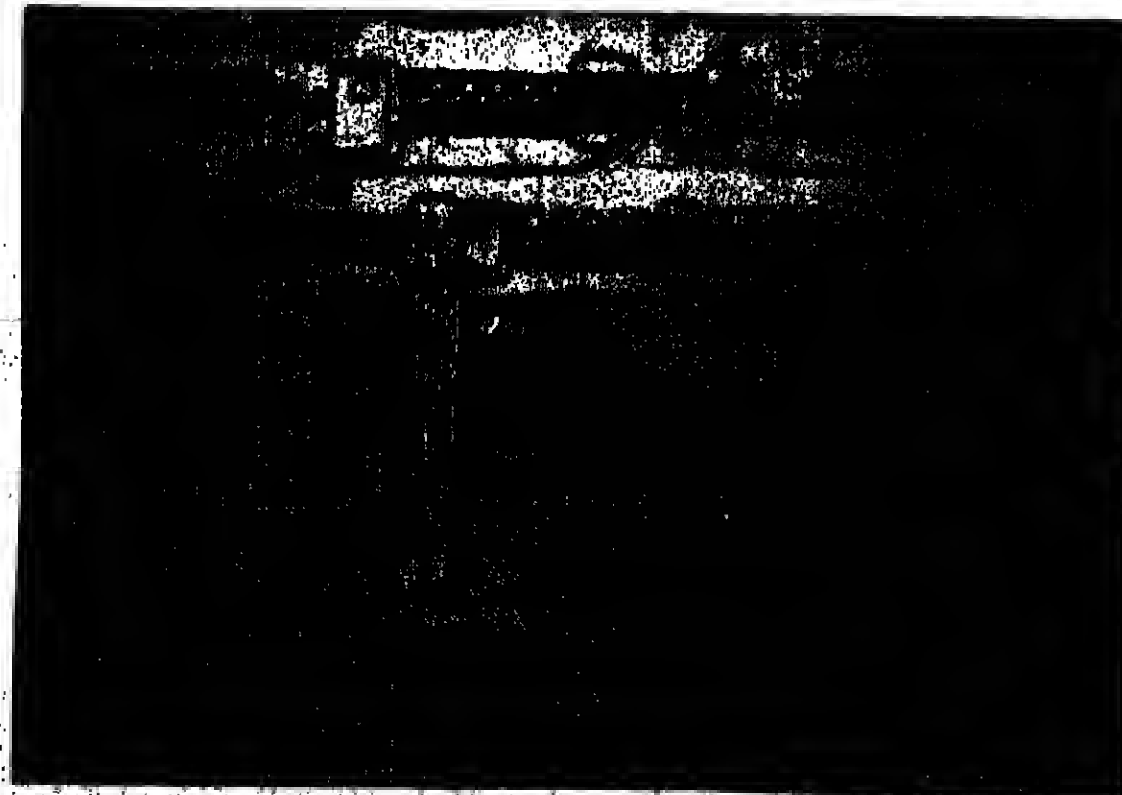
Lentz

# Show!

THE AIM of a children's art exhibition held last week at the Haya Arts Centre was to "promote understanding among young artists," says Mr. Edmund Y. Liu, director of the Far East Commercial Office in Amman. It will also strengthen cultural ties among the nations who participated and contributed to the art show, he said.

The exhibition was sponsored by the National Historical Museum of the Republic of China, the Association for Education through Art and the Association for Formative Art Education in Taiwan.

The show, held under the auspices of the Far East Commercial Office, included 200 paintings by children from more than 60 countries, including many works of art from the Arab World. Samples of the artwork are pictured here.



## JERUSALEM STAR LAUNCHES NEW PAGE FOR CHILDREN

Calling all children in Jordan....

Do you have an unusual hobby, pet or sport?

Are you a keen photographer?

Do you write stories or poetry?

Are you a member of a children's club?

If the answer is "Yes" to any of these questions or if you have something interesting you'd like to say, The Jerusalem Star wants to hear from you.

For the first time The Jerusalem Star weekly newspaper is opening one of its pages just for children. The page will appear every week, for children, by children. (Get your parents' permission first.)

Send us your photographs, drawings, stories, poems or anything you think may be of interest to other children as soon as possible. Or you can call us on Amman 664153. Ask for Triela Weir on extension 75.

To launch our new project The Jerusalem Star invites all you young photographers out there to enter our photo competition. If you have a clear, interesting photograph that you have taken yourself, why not enter?

The competition is open to all children up to the age of 16 and the closing date is the 31st March 1983. Here are the rules:

1. All photographs must have been taken by the children themselves.
2. Entries may be of any size, preferably in black and white, but colour will do.
3. Send entries to the address below, in a stiffened envelope if possible, with your name, age, school and home address with telephone number written clearly on the back, and a picture of yourself.
4. The Jerusalem Star cannot be held responsible for loss or damage to entries and regrets that entries cannot be returned.
5. Young people up to the age of 16 years may enter but relatives of The Jerusalem Star staff are not eligible.
6. Entries will be judged on merit according to age. Judges will include The Jerusalem Star Staff photographer. The judge's decision will be final.
7. The five winners will receive The Jerusalem Star T-shirts and a special visit to The Jerusalem Star offices for the top two winners.
8. A list of winners will appear in The Jerusalem Star on April 28th, 1983.
9. All entries not received by the closing date or not abiding by the rules will automatically be disqualified.

Send your entries to:

Jerusalem Star (Photo Competition)  
Ad-Dustour Building  
P.O. Box 581  
Amman, Jordan



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## Editorial

### The bridge to peace

PRESIDENT REAGAN would do well to heed the decisions adopted by the Palestine National Council this week. For the future political strategy agreed upon by the PNC in Algiers will largely determine the failure or success of the American peace initiative, depending on how seriously the US will consider the monumental importance of the conference's resolutions.

The typical response to the PNC resolutions from a government, traditionally influenced by Zionist pressure will be indignation and condemnation as it did not unconditionally accept Mr. Reagan's initiative. But it is critically important that the US President see through the Zionist haze of distortion and simplification of the issue, and realize that Arab reservations about his plan, unlike the total and uncompromising rejection of it by Israel, are based on the legitimate right of self-determination of the Palestinian people.

While the Reagan initiative excludes Palestinian demands for an independent state and PLO representation in the peace process, both are essential elements for peace, recognized as such by the world community. All responsible Arab parties, including Mr. Arafat, have acknowledged that the plan contains positive points. Indeed, all guerrilla groups within the PLO have agreed to link the future Palestinian state with Jordan, the principle cornerstone of Mr. Reagan's plan, but only after achieving full independence from the Israeli occupation.

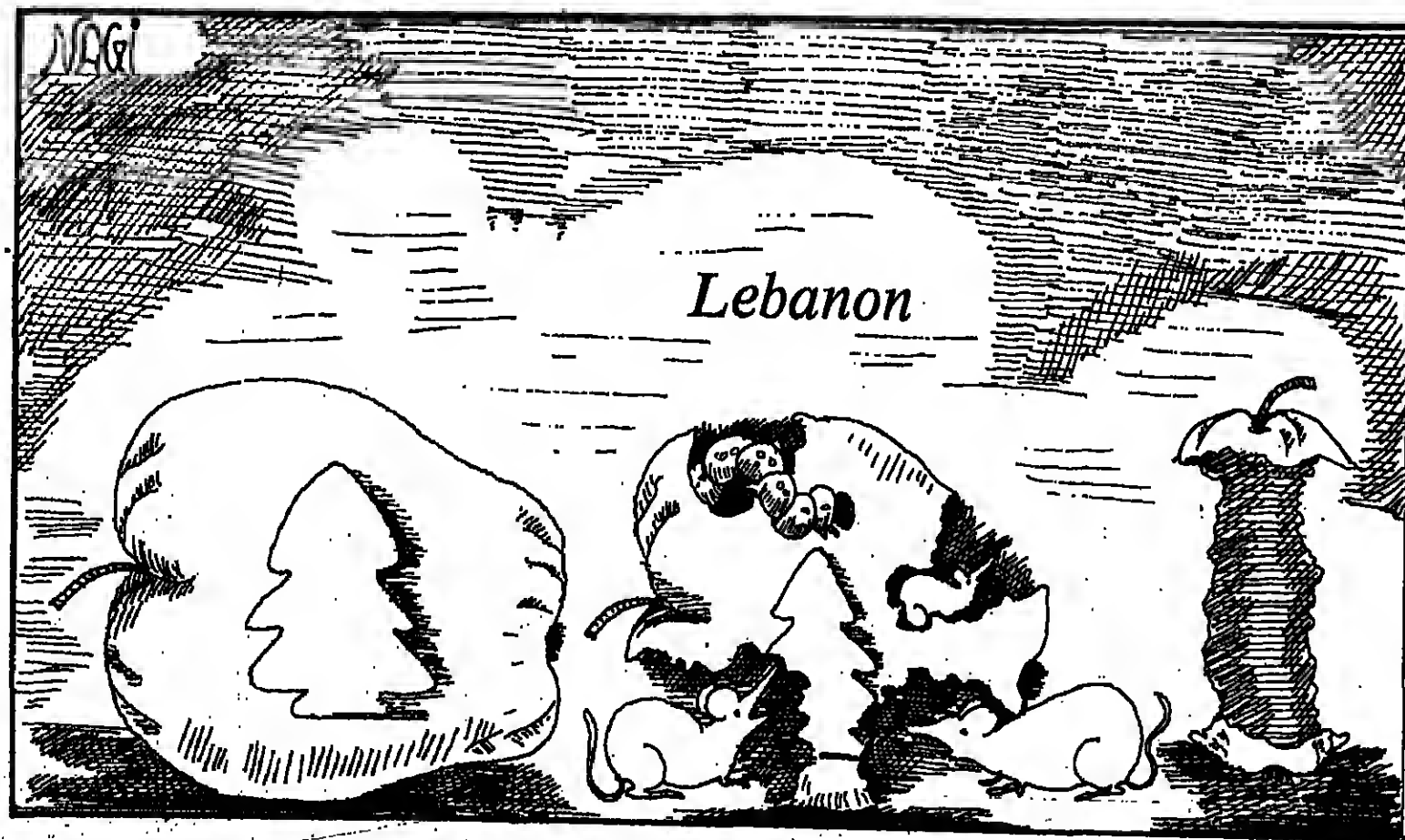
But while the Arabs are aware that the US peace plan represents the first sincere American proposal for defusing

the volatile bomb set by the Israelis in Palestinian land 16 years ago, Mr. Reagan should also be aware that the PNC resolutions represent the Arab, and especially the Palestinian position of how the solution to peace in the Middle East be formulated and then implemented. What remains to be done now by the US and the Arabs is to seriously begin longable work on areas of convergence between the two plans and commence sincere negotiations to reconcile the gaps.

Mr. Arafat has said that he is ready and willing to offer the US administration a bridge to overcome the difficulties that will, no doubt, accompany this task. However, he can only do this if the US is truly intent on making the Reagan initiative work for peace in the Middle East. If the Americans choose not to cross Mr. Arafat's bridge and attempt to meet the Palestinian demands as defined at Fez, the viability of both peace plans will be placed in jeopardy.

The only aide to reap any benefit from the continuing stalemate is Israel. As long as the US procrastinates in beginning at least preliminary discussions with the Arabs and the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people, Israel has that much more time to confiscate Palestinian land to build facts and make such negotiations an impossibility.

Therefore, it is up to the Americans and the Arabs to thwart an Israeli victory over peace. Mr. Reagan should be especially determined to change the status quo as his country's own interests will suffer irrevocable damage if Israel's strategy of terror continues to enjoy priority over peace in the Middle East.



## Letters

### When silence is a virtue

To the editor:

Your article on Col. Qadhaifi's call on the Arabs to revolt (17 Feb.) reminds me of the tale of the boy who cried wolf. Not only did our dear Colonel failed to deliver his promises to the PLO of arm shipments when they were stranded in Beirut, but he also accused the PLO of not doing enough to stop the Israeli advance into Lebanon.

I would like to remind the Colonel that we have heard his harangues for over ten years now and

seen nothing constructive being done on his part to help the Palestinians or even the Arab masses he speaks to.

If the Colonel is really calling for an outbreak of civil disobedience throughout the Arab world, he will certainly be surprised to find out that it is most ripe in his own backyard.

The Colonel shouldn't need to be reminded of the atrocities he has inflicted on the opposition in Libya. Can he forget the assassination squads unleashed in Europe and the United States to follow and kill Libyan students who opposed his

leadership.

The best thing Qadhaifi can do is to remain silent as it has become the only virtue one can claim in the Arab world nowadays.

But, if the Colonel is serious about freeing the Arabs so they can fight Israel, then as the Arab saying goes "the best manner is to start with oneself."

Nash Abdul Rahman  
Amman

## Opinion

"As the front-line battleground of each of the military blocs, one thing is certain for both German States - even with the deployment of 'merely' tactical nuclear weapons the end of the German people would be a strategically foreseen fact which we would have to accept out of loyalty to our respective alliances."  
Gunter Grass, German novelist.

"We might come close to balancing the budget if all of us lived closer to the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule." - President Reagan.

"I can't believe that I'm considered the heavy. I don't feel like a heavy." - Caspar Weinberger, US defence secretary.

"I am a little left of Margaret Thatcher and more or less comparable with Henry Kissinger." - Franz Josef Strauss, leader of the Christian Social Union and prime minister of Bavaria.

"The Vietnamese are Vietnamising Kampuchea. They want us to lose our identity. To be killed, to lose life is very sad - to lose national identity is terrible." - Prince Norodom Sihanouk, former head of state.

"Art is made of conflict. It is not made of what we call pleasure." - Arthur Miller, US playwright.

"I think it's absolutely awful that people should resort to such dastardly acts, especially against an innocent animal not even aware of its own value." - Prince Saddrudin, on the kidnapping in Ireland of his nephew, the Aga Khan's Derby winner Shergar.

"There are strong benefits for the spiritual life of young men in imagining God as feminine." - Father Andrew Greeley, US sociologist and novelist.

## Kamel

### Abu

### Jaber



## Of myth and reality

Greetings to Jerusalem!

ON THE ninth day of the Hebrew month of Av, according to Jewish tradition, the destruction of Solomon's temple took place. East European Jews, comprising about 75 per cent of world Jewry in the 19th century, fasted and mourned the ancient event as though themselves had been its victims. Their appeals and prayers for the Lord's blessings were evocative of the needs of the land of Palestine, not of the countries in which they resided.

With a tenacity that perhaps only the Semite knows, they clung to the ancient dream of a return from the Diaspora. Three times a day they prayed for the "Restoration" of Jerusalem. That most of them were not Semites but of Khazar origin was forgotten or glossed over by choice or under the force of their ghetto life.

From the "Pale of Settlement" in East Europe, an alienated people, alienated by force and choice, the idea of modern Zionism emerged. Romantics, merchants, professionals and bankers worked hard to re-create the ancient dream.

The 19th century Jewish poet, Micha Lebensohn, most probably a descendant of the converted non-Semitic Khazar tribes, speaks of Palestine as if he believes his dream, a dream made real within less than 100 years. He says of Palestine which he calls Zion, "The land where he muses dwell, where each flower is a psalm, each cedar a song divine, each stone a book and each rock a tablet."

Rabbi Judah Alkalai and Zvi Kalisher, writing about the same time, helped in reviving or rather creating Jewish nationalism. Simon Herzl, grandfather of Theodore Herzl, founder of modern Zionism, was a pupil and disciple of Rabbi Alkalai and fostered an emphasis on a return to Palestine.

This recollection is necessary as a background to the scene of 1983 in the Middle East. The thirteenth tribe, the descendants of East European Jewry as Arthur Koestler calls them, have "gathered" in Palestine while the original Semites, the legal owners of biblical Canaan, are anywhere but in their rightful land. Some of their fighters were just inspected by Mr. Yasser Arafat at a place called Tebessa, 600 kilometres southeast of Algiers in North Africa. In talking to correspondents they vowed they would never forget Palestine and that they are training for their eventual return home. Which is closer in a true sense to Palestine, the city of Tern in East Prussia, Plinok or Wersaw, or Tebessa in Algeria?

The recollection is also necessary as a sign post along the highway of the impending long struggle; a long struggle that is being forced on the Arabs and the world by Israeli intransigence.

How do you reach a compromise between an ideologue and a moderate? An ideologue like Mr. Begin, heir to the bitter heritage of pogroms and czars and ghettos? A man who fled the atrocities of Hitler and saw his own family vanish in the wake of his hatred? How can peace be reached between a rabid chauvinistic nationalism like Zionism with its clear strategy and efficient methodology and the Arab World, a house divided among itself, a body with more than one head?

The tensions has subsided along the Libyan-Sudanese border and the Awacs reconnaissance planes of the United States will no longer be needed. The Nimble has sailed away from Libyan shores. The Polisario is still in good health and functional while the Iran-Iraq war rages on to the benefit of God knows who. Lebanon and its territory are still under the heavy boots of Israeli occupation while Mr. Habib and Mr. Draper shuttle back and forth. Mr. Shultz, US Secretary of State, issues the ominous statement that those who live by the sword shall die by it. Whose sword?

Meanwhile, Yosef Burg, Israeli Minister of Interior, extols Mr. Begin by calling him a moderate, the reason being that Mr. Begin, it seems, no longer demands that Jordan be part of Eretz Israel. For the moment, that is, Mr. Sharon, the man responsible for the Sabra and Shatila camp massacres in Lebanon, was disciplined by being kept in the cabinet, and by being added to the two cabinet committees in charge of security and negotiations with Lebanon. Mr. Moshe Arens, a man reported even by the Israeli press as more hawkish than Sharon, was appointed minister of defence.

Time will tell where and when Mr. Arens too will prove himself like every new Israeli minister of defence and chief of staff before him. In the meantime Opac seems to be breaking up and we Arabs, once thought of as soldiers, have turned into merchants and traders while the merchants have turned into conquerors.

## A second reading of Kahan report

By Arab writer

Ad-Dustour columnist

IF WE intelligently pursue events from the day Sharon began his so-called "Peace for Galilee" operation on 6 June and until the Kahan's committee report was published, we can understand that Zionism was the beneficiary of all changes. The war, which reached its zenith during the massacres of Sabra and Shatila, was meant by the planners to be a crowning operation of their military victory over the Palestinians, and a means to deepen sectarian conflict in the region.

Above all, it was meant to give further dimensions to the philosophy of terror as adopted by Begin throughout his political life as a means to eradicate the people of Palestine and to empty Arab land before the Zionist march.

This reckless but ambitious plan created negative results on the political and information levels. From this point came the Kahan report to absorb these results and to do away with their negative effects and to cover the big defects with a cheap price.

We do not want to base this opinion on the fact that everything in Israel is planned by a secret command that uses different methods for each case. This excuse, because it is strange, is subject to doubt. Likewise, we do not want to deprive Kahan and his committee from the praise that is coming to them and describing them as fair, neutral and daring. But we think that the nature of the Jewish system and the nature of "general understanding" as defined by the culture and education coming down through Jewish heritage, or the "uniqueness" of Zionism about which Nahum Goldmann spoke in his article "The Inheritance" which he published few days before his death, is destined to lead all at the end to serve Israel and to place its interest above all considerations, including the soldier in the field and the judge on the pulpit of justice, each using different techniques.

Therefore it was not necessary from anybody to ask Kahan to act against his conscience so long as he used Zionist standards to achieve justice as specified by those standards. He should be of the character of an "angel" to place his Zionist creed to indictment. The French philosopher Pascal expressed such an attitude in his "meditations" by saying, "The fairest of people cannot be fair if they were requested to put their creed to trial."

The scrutiny of "public understanding" in the Zionist establishment leads to a wide discussion but we are most interested in the concern of the Jewish state over its citizenry to the extent of denying all charges against Jews throughout the changes in the diaspora. The most prominent of those charges is the disregard to non-Jewish blood reaching the ugliest picture in the so-called "ritual murder".

We are not here to discuss this serious charge but we must understand the motive within every Zionist to deny this charge regardless of facts. We do not exaggerate in this point because Begin himself valued this type of Zionist thinking when he considered charging Israel with collaboration in the massacre as "blood libel" which, like "anti-Semitism", represents a counter-weapon brandished by Jews against anyone trying to revive old accusations. From this point we can understand why Kahan's report insisted on exonerating the Israeli leaders from murder or planning the crime. Charging Sharon and others with dereliction and reluctance are mere defects shared by Jews and others alike. Drawing attention to such charges implies the means of acquitting Israel.

I read Kahan's report as published in the "Jerusalem Post" very carefully. In many points of the report one feels like losing the thread he is holding thus reaching no result as implied by the introduction. This could be explained as if the report has a secret chapter which hides the ends of all threads.

I am certain that any other committee free from the "Israeli uniqueness" would have ended up with completely different results. I recommend that international law establishments be encouraged to re-study the circumstances which engulfed the massacre even based on the facts reported in Kahan's report, despite all reservations concerning them.

Incriminating individuals with this crime, whether Israelis or not, remains a very difficult request due to the strict secrecy and complete punctuality with which the operation was managed. The collective responsibility of Israel remains the important issue which shows on the surface of the report through any neutral review. This outcome concerns us and it is the one that should rest in the human conscience through all means in the hope that it will in time feed the march of the struggle against Zionist colonialism.

One of the clear gaps in the report is the fact about

relations between the Israeli military command and the Christian Phalangists. This relationship represents a master key before which all other details fade away. Eitan himself spoke about keeping the Phalangists out of any action because they were undisciplined and because of others reasons which the report preferred not to pursue, despite the fact that other Israeli officials have shed light on them by mentioning that the militiamen bear a blind hatred for Palestinians and that giving them liberty to act will bring about acts of revenge and settling of accounts.

But Sharon and Eitan entrusted the Phalangists with searching for elements of resistance in the refugee camps, and only few hours after the assassination of President Bashir Gemayel, when all feelings were aroused. The assassination of the president while the Israeli army was the dominant force and encircling the camps prior to the invitation to the Phalangists to search them, all constitute a link but not a coincidence. Therefore we must search for the thread that connects them inside the mind of Begin and Sharon or in the secret bottom of the Kahan report.

This logic becomes acceptable if we agree that the Phalangists committed the massacre without actual participation by Israeli troops. This is the main theme on which Kahan's report was based, but any intelligent reading of the report places this result within a shell of heavy suspicion.

The Sabra and Shatila operation bears the political mark of the school that brought up Begin and Sharon. This school believes in using force to achieve greater Israel, and which sees no place for the Arabs within this Jewish entity. As long as the Arabs are there they have to be physically liquidated. This will help us understand Begin's method in Deir Yassin in 1948 and Sharon's tactics in the massacres of Qibya, Nahalin and Gaza during the late fifties. These are but repeated pictures in different sizes through different methods linked together by the one thread of organised barbarism that creates violent terrorism and leaves the Palestinians with the only option of fleeing outside the boundaries of greater Israel.

We say all this to come to the logical result ignored by the Kahan report. We did not expect Kahan's report to reach this result because the Zionist philosophy, regardless of its beliefs and methods, is destined to repeat the massacre of Deir Yassin in one way or another as defined by the early pioneers.

We mentioned earlier about the ability of the Israeli system to absorb crises. In this respect we mention that Kahan's report did not only acquit Israel from planning for the crime but also brought praise to it as if the report was intended to prepare a happy ending to the tragedy of 6 June across the northern borders.

Leaders of the world praised Israeli democracy. This democracy is good for the Israelis but it did not prevent aggression to start with. Israel is not alone in this field but we have seen the oldest of colonialist powers bless colonialist campaigns in Africa during the time of Gladstone, Disraeli and William Pitt at the time the British citizen enjoyed the blessings of democracy in his country while listening to justifications from his leaders about their attitudes in the colonies. We have heard Balfour defend Lord Cromer's rule in Egypt as the best that fits such people!

Enslavement through democratic systems was a subject of irony by some thinkers of that era such as poet-writer Langston Hughes who said in his poem, "A Black Man Speaks", "I swear to God that I do not understand why democracy means every person except me!"

The Israeli "liberal" system is a weapon in the battle of aggression and its effects is evident in many parts of the conflict. This issue deserves consideration by the Arab thinker.

Kahan's committee has put a requested end to the Lebanese disaster and succeeded in beautifying the picture of Israel and in persuading the world to place laurel wreaths around Israeli democracy.

In their estimate the ado will fade away sooner or later but the dreadful nightmares will remain inside Palestinian camps everytime the Israeli tanks move or sectarian conflicts flare. The price of all this seems so trivial that did not exceed the transfer of one molester from one post to another.

A comprehensive look at the problem explains that the committee has chosen the lesser of evils that might bring a lot of good as if its main concern was to exonerate Israel and Zionism from collective incrimination. It has chosen the old Jewish method to win time and to submit a lot of questions about cows and their colours in order to let the criminal go unpunished, as mentioned in the holy Quran.



## society

# The rise and spread of Islam

By Ahmad Anani  
Special to the Star

ISLAM CONSTITUTES a unique phenomenon in history unprecedented and unmatched for the end of time. The complete conversion of the whole course of affairs in most of the known world of the Seventh Century A.D. within a single decade, which Islam effected, cannot be considered anything less than a miracle realized by Allah's will and guidance.

Prophet Muhammad was invited to lend physical help in the removal of a heavy boulder which obstructed the proper digging of the defensive ditch, hurriedly constructed by Muslims to face the sudden invasion of Quraysh's pagans in the 5th year A.H. (c. 627 A.D.). He smiled happily when the boulder yielded to two strikes of his axe which twice flashed with sprinkles of fire. Being asked why he smiled he said he saw through the two flashes the empires of Ctesiphon and Constantinople surrender to Muslim fighters.

At that hour the tiny Muslim community was being besieged by a ten thousand man army. The besieging army of Quraysh and its Ambillies was three as strong as that of the Muslims whose back lines became fatally exposed to deadly danger.

No situation worse than that of the Muslims in the Battle of the Ditch (Al-Khandaq) could be imagined. In the grooves of the Prophet's sword, the conquest by his few besieged men of the two super-powers in the world of his time and that very task became true in just a decade.

Now no explanation based on bare calculation of materialistic facts can justify the unparalleled achievements of Islam in a mere decade. The explanation of that miracle can only be sought in the objective and scrupulous understanding of Islamic teachings.

By Allah's care the Holy Quran has been the sole heavenly revelation absolutely protected against the slightest distortion or mutilation of any kind. Its teachings which received ideal application in the life and deeds of Prophet Muhammad, are the embodiment of true emancipation of human life from oppression, fear, superstition and exploitation.

It has only been possible for human beings to realize true equality through Islam, regardless of race, colour, territory, hereditary pretensions and

all sorts of ways by which discrimination was allowed to exist among humans.

The only method of distinction that Islam allows is that of merit acquired by virtuous deeds and self-sacrifice. The compassionate fraternity which Islam was able to inspire in the hearts of Muslims towards one another is reflected by the fact that within moments new Muslim acquaintances can become immediately the closest of loving brethren even though each of them comes from the remotest country.

Islamic justice is the essence of the Muslim's ascendancy. The application of the principles of Islamic justice and jurisdiction has always heralded the rise of an invincible community.

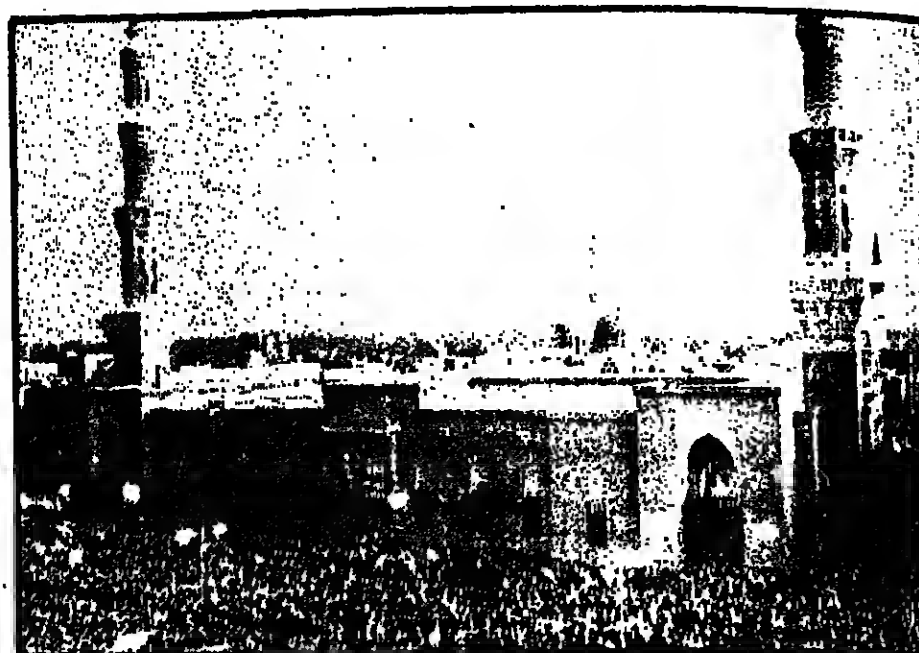
Any declaration of human rights issuing out of universal pangs of wars and revolution can only be as worthwhile in so far as it is able to resemble Allah's enjoinments of human rights in Quran. All human beings—as the Hujurat Sum decrees—are born of one and the same father and mother, namely Adam and Eve. The best among them is the most Allah-fearing. The proof of such fear can only be found in deeds of goodness and self-sacrifice.

Islam designs a political system based on "consultation" and majority concurrence aiming at the good of the society and the preservation of the essential rights of the individual. Authority is based on sacrifice and capability to face challenges and its mission is the application of the heavenly law of Shari'a.

The target of the executive power, as the first Caliph defined it, is to stand by the weak until they secure their rights from the strong and against the strong until they relinquish to the weak their rights.

Islam also builds a perfect economic system where private ownership has free play only within the boundaries of legitimacy. No man shall own wealth by corruption, bribery, unreasonable profit, immoral behaviour, usury, monopoly, holding, opposition of the free flow of money in investment, holding lands without proper exploitation, illegitimate ownership of public water resources, common pasture land, or deposited minerals underground.

Wealth is broken down to small ownership by a detailed system of inheritance, and social security is guaranteed through holy taxes and various



The only method of distinction is that of merit acquired by virtuous deeds and self-sacrifice.

other means too detailed to be dealt with here.

The Islamic social system guarantees the rise of a society absolutely clean, spiritually and physically. Every individual has a detailed plan of high rights and duties, to his Creator, to his people, to his homeland, to himself, to his family and to the universe as a whole. The essence of all such relations is sacrifice, compassionate love and co-operation and the realization of human values and interests.

Islam brought about the most radical change of political, social and economical change ever witnessed in history. Starting with the Arabian Peninsula, it broke asunder political and social ties based on tribal allegiance replacing them with the universal and unified allegiance to Allah.

It built up an Islamic world unified in faith, morality, traditions and trade, compelling in scientific achievements and knowledge-seeking and using Arabic as the language of religion and culture.

The deterioration that befell the Islamic World was, and still is, the result of Muslims failure to abide to the principles of Quran and Sunna. Despite the survival of basic Islamic principles unmolested, the Muslims, owing to internal acts of egoism and the constant external pressure of the

enemies of Islam have fatally lost touch with the obligations and advantages of true monotheism.

The catastrophic result was the stoppage of the current of creative Muslim mind. Consequently Muslims have clung to the "form" of Islam but lost its "spirit." Their deeds no more represented their faith; they were lost in imitation of human samples far from being true representation of Islam.

The Muslims have consequently suffered at the hands of their external enemies and internal problems of ignorance, division and poverty.

Despite this and regardless of the extent of the penetration of the enemy into their hearts, and despite the aggression still exercised on them in places like Palestine and Kashmir, there are steady threads of light arising from the reawakening of the Islamic mind.

The tide is fixed now of its previously from surface. The flowing river of Islam is slowly but vehemently destroying the boulders thrown in its course. The Quran and Sunna are now being studied. The wheels of an impressive change are turning. By Allah's will in two or three decades everything shall have been changed for the better.

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## The progress of the pessimistic optimist

This week Henry Matar continues his review of Emil Habibi's "The Peculiar Anals relating the Disappearance of Salid, the Unfortunate Pessimistic Optimist". The only method of distinction is that of merit acquired by virtuous deeds and self-sacrifice.

THE FIRST book "Yuad the first" reveals, in the person of Salid, the still romantically naïve, unstable Palestinian. His very survival from the clashes between Arabs and Jews prior to 1948 is a stroke of good luck. "When they fired at us, my father fell dead. But I was more lucky," Salid reports. "A donkey stood between me and the fatal shot."

He belonged to a generation of Palestinian youths who foolishly believed in the importance of being descended from out dated, high-sounding but hollow parentage.

He even looked upon the weapon-buying mission he and some other friends were sent on to Lebanon in 1939 as an enjoyable picnic. He enjoyed being admired by the Lebanese border troops and by the Lebanese girls. He foolishly spent the weapon money in debauchery in Beirut. So on his way back, he resolved only disdain from his previous admirers.

Like many other Palestinians who had been forced to seek refuge in Lebanon in 1948, he believed that his return to his native town of Halifa was a matter of few days.

When things proved to be different, he still had false hopes of being easily admitted back into Palestine by the good will of the authorities of the new state of Israel. He built castles in the air upon friendships his deceased father had made with certain Jews and also upon the fallacy of playing the eastern Jew off against his western counterpart.

Back in Halifa, Salid little by little began to awake to the bitter reality. He had to work as a waiter at a restaurant in Halifa saw his own house occupied by the new invaders: he dared not even knock on the door. He felt like a stranger in his own town and among the new people he was forced to live with. In his suffering he longed painfully for the old good days but, alas, in vain. Hopes were boosted a little when in 1956 the tripartite attack on Egypt ended in utter failure. It was then that Salid, imagined he had the chance of seeing his beloved "Yuad", his dear Palestine, come back and make a solemn sacred bond of marriage with him.

But it was no more than a short-lived fantasy. For soon "Yuad" was discovered by the Israeli authorities and was carried back across the borders.

In his agony and still slowly awakening from his disillusionment, Salid imagines the high-sounding figure of a very respectable man arising from the sea in the vicinity of the light-house of the city of Acre.

When he desperately asked the figure for help, the latter solemnly answered, "only when you can no longer tolerate this miserable existence of yours and when you can no longer pay the price, only then can you come to me for help. What is it that you do lack? Doesn't each of you have a life to offer? Aren't you all suffering from the very death you are afraid of?" The change at last started to come.

In the second book of the story, entitled "Bakia" - that is the "resident", the Palestinian, as represented by Salid, is no longer a wishful thinker, a day dreamer, or a compromiser. He is a close watcher of things around him and a seeker of knowledge and truth.

In one of his wanderings on the seashore of Acre, he noticed a girl from a village nearby sitting alone on a rock by the sea. She looked different

from the other girls who lived their lives of acquiescence easily enough.

"Bakia", for that was her name, seemed to be a solemn thinker. And soon enough, Salid fell in love with her, and they got married and together they began their search for reality.

She revealed to him the secret she had so long kept to herself. It was the secret of an iron box she had hidden in the depths of the sea—the human soul—the secret of the power of knowledge and of the strong will to resist.

They cherished and nourished the secret and the outcome was a boy they had. In their wary caution against being discovered, they called their boy "wala"—that is "loyalty" to the state—but they really meant him to be loyal to the cause of Palestine.

The boy discovered their secret. He decided to search for the iron-box treasure and to run away with it. In their fear for the boy and for the secret, they try to convince him to come out of the cavern under the sea, where he had found the box. But in vain.

"At last," came his voice to them from the under-sea cavern. "I can breathe freely here. In the middle you suppressed even my infant crying; for fear at school you cautioned me against talk and against trusting anybody—even my teacher and friends. This cavern is wider than you fear and your life."

"But what are you going to fight with, my boy," his mother anxiously asked. "With this old machine-gun I found in the box." In her singleness of heart, Bakia, carried away by her love for her only son and motivated by the sense of duty, she had so long tried to suppress, decided to join the young fighter for freedom. Salid was left alone to begin again a wiser and a more resolute man.

Salid's first awakening was stimulated by the rise of the Palestinian Resistance Movement—of which the under-sea search for the secret is only a

symbol—his second awakening, as related in Book three, is now occasioned partly by the Arab defeat in the war of 1967, and partly, by the brief success in the October war.

For the first time Salid openly comes out into the light of things. His first move towards facing the ugly reality of the occupation was imposed upon him it happened that he, like all the Palestinian survivors in the West Bank, decided to comply with the authorities' orders to hang the white flag of surrender, immediately after the 1967 war.

His move was considered a violation of his allegiance to the state. After a summary investigation, he was carried to Shatta prison in the Chir district near Belsan. In prison, though very cruelly tortured, his mood was completely broken against his persecutors, especially when he met a fighter of the resistance movement.

On his way back home, after his being released, he met his beloved Yuad the second. And being asked by her why he seemed to be so cheerful, he said, "Because you've returned, my love." "My goodness", she objected, "but how could good cheer be occasioned in the presence of the invader?" "As food that is cooked with heat," he said.

But soon enough she was recaptured and deported across the borders once more. As she was taken away, her cry "Help! help! I am a captive again," shakes Salid back into sad reality.

The frustrated, sophisticated and disillusioned cynic that the progressive minded Palestinian Salid has now become—he finds himself more sitting on a headless stake post, confused and wondering where and when his trouble should come to an end. "An unfortunate pessimistic optimist."

## Refreshing craftsmanship from Stephen Hayes

By Vanessa Batrouni  
Special to the Star

WHEN APPRECIATING twentieth century art we have been conditioned to expect conceptual novelty, fresh manipulations of paint, the introduction of new materials or at least some minor shock to our cultural system.

If suitably shaken or intrigued we assume the artist must be good even if the work is beyond ours or his understanding. Barriers have been broken, limits have dissolved and from the early days of the futurists, vorticists and constructivists onwards to present day punk we have learnt to accept anything and everything even if we don't feel inclined to buy it.

The Stephen Hayes exhibition at the American Centre may come therefore as a reverse shock. This soft spoken artist has created softly spoken pictures; easily digestible, very palatable and no adverse after effects. Your senses can take a break from confusion on his expert figurative pencil drawings, docile landscapes, neat, compact collages and a new equally uneventful oils.

Most of this restful, lyrical work is a step aside from the jet age, turning its back away from its harassments and tensions to look again and explore the rhythms of landscape paintings.

The pace of his life and work slowed down when Stephen Hayes, quitting America two years ago after graduating from Wisconsin

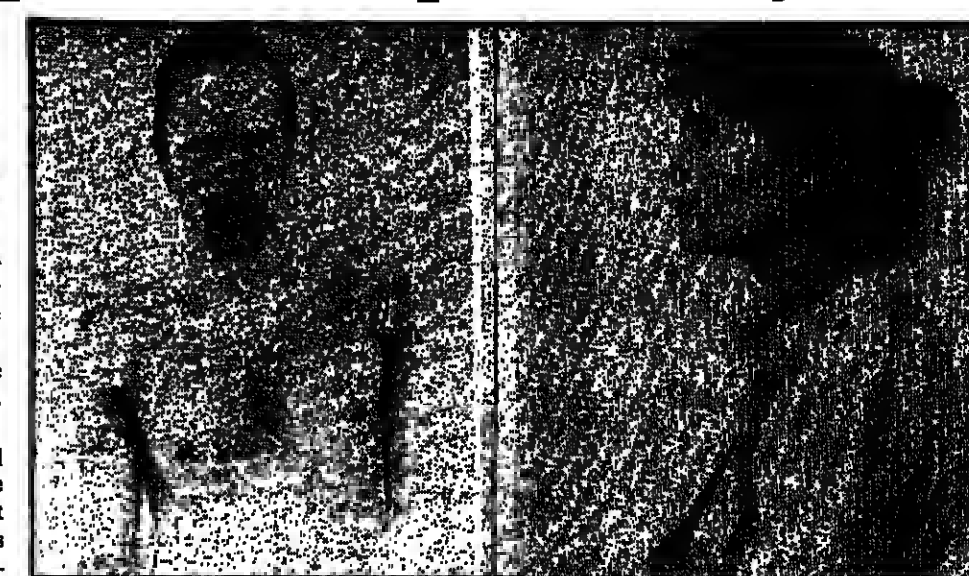
University, and consciously opting out of the high powered city life of New York, decided to sit out a year in a Cypriot village.

Although he had doubts about this decision they do not appear in his watercolours which ably record the gentle countryside in which he was submerged. Controlled and peaceful, we can share some of the life he chose—its magical moments (The almond Grove at Night) its more intense (the less controlled, heavier coloured portraits of his wife) and those disharmonious (the more violent purple and blues of A Drive Home at Night). Most of the landscapes are of Cyprus but about a third were done here in Jordan.

At college Stephen was highly successful and sought after for his pencil portraits. The few on show here illustrate why in their expert handling of a wide range of pencilled textures and blown powdered graphite. But like an actor he was being identified with the one role and didn't like it, hence the move away into watercolours, oil, landscapes and objects.

But of greater interest to him is the now passe art form of college—turning everyday junk into art. For some years he has been an avid collector of throwaways—food can labels, tickets, restaurant bills etc and of personal memorabilia and recently he has begun to use some of these in his work.

There are six collages, some titled, some not, but all neatly patterned, compositional pieces, small, detailed and satisfying. There are also some book illustrations whose cartoon



His pencil portraits show an excellent handling of a wide range of textures

men and women in rather dreary domestic situations have been lifted from his journals.

One could brand Stephen Hayes as a conservative or a beginner on the long road to self discovery but it is refreshing that he has chosen such a well trod path instead of plunging into the obscure. He is not worried about being old fashioned. He enjoys working through the anonymity of his work, being more concerned with craft than concept. He

has not bonded himself to a new technique nor fished in his mind for lost data to crowd his canvases.

Like the classicists he looks outwards and to where there is no violence, no threat, no aggression, all is calm realism. Artists are not obliged to come up with something totally new nor should they all be innovators and this exhibition can be enjoyed for its craftsmanship and visual beauty, if not so much for its ideas.

## And a mixed bag from the Artists' Association

THERE IS a flurry of exhibition this week. Exhibition of work by the members of the Jordanian Artists Association of the Alla Art Gallery.

The policy of the association is to have two types of membership, one for those trained and

graduated in fine arts and another to encourage people who paint. The exhibition is showing work of all members, so exhibits vary in quality, some good, some talented, some amateur some poor.

Modern idioms are used but not always

handled well as in two large canvases of bold brassy colours alloyed tentatively with fabric. More successful is Sahar Qamhaw's "Endless", a rather nice cool composition of triangles fitted together in a crystal-like fashion.

And Mohammed Laham's "Nabateans Inspirations" and "Arabesque" almost work with their compartmentalised Islamic objects and graphics boxed by strong white lines. His child like "Jerusalem" is even stronger with its coarsely executed buildings, rough sky, vivid reds and oranges, expressing an alive throbbing city drenched in sun. Embroidery again is used without much thought but is at least more integrated than in other pictures. Showing sounder rhythm, balance and handling of colour are the shimmering canvases of Princessa Wijden and Mohammed Murcish's "Life Boat".

There are many landscapes, mostly of a local flavour, including a town, and worked in desert colours of browns and yellows. "Features from Jerusalem" and "Features from Amman" simply titled by Yaser Dweik are interesting in their flat reordering of nodules of buildings, slivers of land and sky all in the same range of colours that give a feeling of an area emptied of people and of oneness.

Interesting too is the imaginative "Mansions" of Mohammed Samara—a stubble of houses flank the lower half of the picture

while the sky is filled with echoes of other building structures vibrating and controlling the whole surface. Also worth mentioning are the spacious country scenes worked by Yusuf Husacny who attains his effects with brush-strokes.

Semi-cubism creeps into some of the figurative work. In the Turkish styled "Knight" of Hafeez Qassbi the figures slip along curved lines in a swirl of colour and less ambitiously Farouk Lambaz's "Mother and Child", "The Gate" and "A Bedouin" are broken like large mosaics.

In the work of Zaki Shifra (Hope and Comrades) the figures are drawn realistically against misty, jumbled backgrounds but these paintings so ooze with sentimentality that it undermines their integrity. His "Immortal Love" descends into crude symbolism using the hair of an unconvincing Arab woman to curl into guns, tanks and victory signs.

More subtle in their message are the distorted figures of Ahmad Moussa Na'Waah. The enlarged heads, misplaced feet and overgrown arms in his "Two Girls and a Child from Tall Al Zatar" aptly impart the idea of damaged psyches.

Unfortunately many works were disappointing and were overpriced in regard to their quality.

(V.B.)





## All Things Considered

Joyce Abu Jassar

### Attitudes to aging

SEVERAL WEEKS ago we had an article about attitudes towards aging women pointing out how often society reflects upon them in an uncomplimentary way. Of course, other people's viewpoints do have an effect on us, both men and women, because we don't live in a vacuum. But these views can only influence us to the degree that we ourselves accept them.

When someone asked George Bernard Shaw what he thought about growing old, he replied that he preferred it to the alternative of dying young. He was still writing at the age of 93, saying that while his body was wearing out, his mind was still 17 years old.

Shakespeare expressed his views in this lovely sonnet:  
Thy glass will show thee how thy beauty wanes,  
Thy dial how thy precious minutes waste;  
Thy vacant leaves thy mind's imprint will bear,  
And of this book this learning mayst thou taste.  
The wrinkles which thy glass will truly show  
Of mouthed graves will give thee memory;  
Thou by thy dial's steady stealth dost know  
Time's thievish progress to eternity.  
Look, what thy memory cannot contain  
Commit to these waste blanks, and thou shalt find  
Those children nurs'd, deliver'd from thy brain,  
To take a new acquaintance of thy mind.  
These offices, so oft as thou wilt look,  
Shall profit thee and much enrich thy book.

If we think only of our physical appearance and listen to every casual jibe and remark made by idle tongues, then we will soon be in a sad state indeed. Because no matter what measures we take to preserve our physical selves—which is a serious responsibility that we owe to ourselves—time will eventually catch up with our bodies.

But there is that other part of ourselves, that inner self or whatever else you want to call it, that keeps on going—if we give it the attention it deserves. It was the part of Shakespeare and Shaw that kept them writing.

But writing isn't for everyone, so the search for that other part of our lives must be undertaken on an individual basis. Only you can do it.

Often we get so involved in the physical aspects of our lives that we forget that the other part even exists. Or perhaps we knew of it as children but it has been obscured by the demands of daily life, job and family until we don't know how to find it anymore.

We are all at the mercy of Time's thievish progress to eternity and if we think of our lives as a road with the past as the steps we have already travelled, the present where we are standing now, and the future the part of the road we have ahead, won't these steps gain in importance with us, giving us a sense of loss as they pass.

Yet if we realise that life is not the narrow progress from day to day but an infinite space in which to expand that other part of ourselves laterally and vertically then what is happening in the mirror becomes only one of myriad other events and discoveries.

This vertical and lateral search must be a quiet one, something that you do by yourself. There are as many methods as there are people, I suppose, for each one of us has a life unique to himself or herself alone. But once we've found this other part of ourselves, a bit of acknowledgment of this inner part is all that is needed to put a different view to our lives. We are all going to get old. Just how we go about it is up to us.

### Unlucky for Schlumpfs

There is the intriguing affair of the brothers Schlumpf—Hans, aged 80, and Fritz, 78.

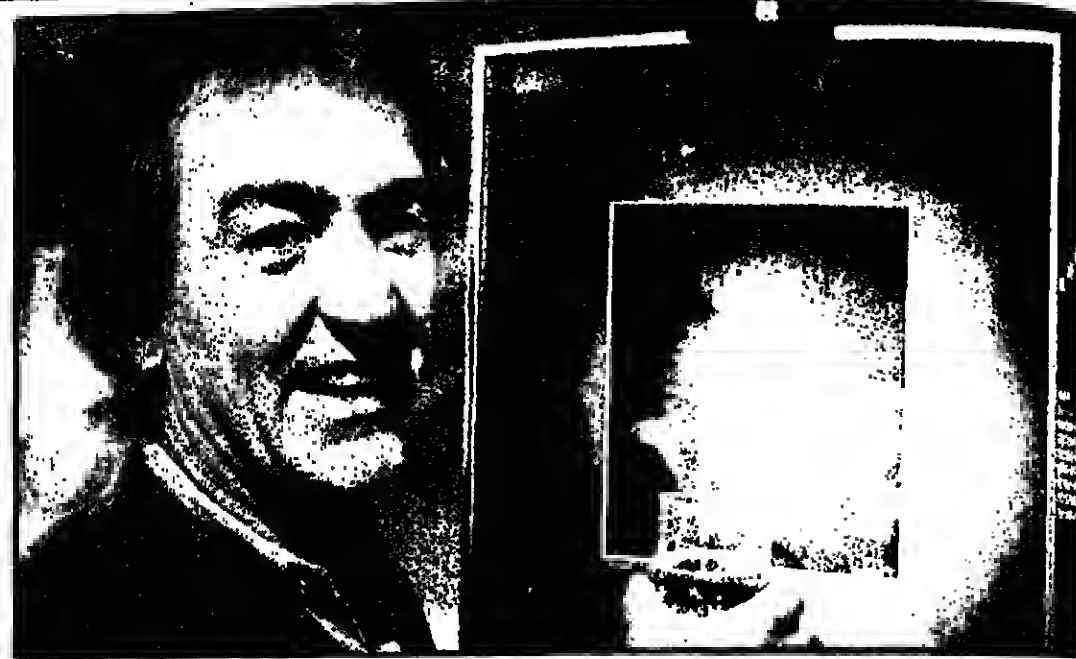
They were Swiss who settled in Alsace in the early part of the century. They went into the textile business and flourished famously. Now their business is bankrupt and they are facing charges of fraud. Both have taken refuge in their native Switzerland.

One reason given in their bankruptcy hearings for their financial collapse is the undue attention they paid to an expensive hobby—collecting antique motor cars. They scoured the world for models, nearly all of them in pristine condition, and restored them with loving care.

Altogether they have some 600 cars, Bugattis, Rolls-Royces, Delahayes, De Dion-Boutons and Hispano-Suizas, in their very earliest models. Nobody knows how much the collection is worth and the bankruptcy experts are now investigating what they might fetch on the open market, either sold individually or as a collection.

There is, of course, a possibility that the State might be interested in acquiring the museum as so many early French models are involved. This, among other advantages, would avert the danger of the collection being broken up.

(London Express Service)



Peter Woodd and his best-selling hologram. You would never know it wasn't there

### The kiss you can't touch

AS YOU pass a gallery called Light Fantastic in London's Covent Garden a beautiful girl in the window blows you a Kiss and smiles. Walk the other way and she smiles and blows you a Kiss. It is a riveting performance. People pass and re-pass to catch it.

The girl is a hologram and the tap on the wall upstairs is a hologram and so are the bottles of Perrier water, the fish, the car, the dancing girl in the kimono and all the other things on show and the only word for them is magical.

I hope you know what holograms are because I will otherwise have a hard time telling you. I had them explained to me by three different people

this week and I have read the stuff they have given me and I don't begin to understand it.

All I know is that when you switch on the light on absolutely three-dimensional objects sits firmly in the air before you during you not to believe it is really there.

Take the tap, one of the most popular exhibits. It is as simple as a tap as any tap you ever saw. You can look at it from one side, walk round and look at it from the other. You can look down on it and look up at it and

I was greatly tempted to pay £100 for it. If it had been a real tap, of course, I could have stretched out and touched it, I wouldn't have looked at it

twice. Am I cracking up?

It is the same with the hologram, it is a very real thing and you put your hand out. This is £100, so cheap for a hologram.

Only two years ago they were prohibitively expensive and even now the gleaming wine glass over there cost £1250. As for the gallery's new video, which seems to go back five years, that is still too expensive to sell.

Light Fantastic has been open for a year now and this is its fourth exhibition. More than 20,000 people from 11 different countries have been there—they keep a visitors' book—and a good many have bought holograms.

(London Express Service)

### Coping with dysmenorrhoea

My eighteen-year old daughter suffers from dysmenorrhoea. Is there anything she can do to prevent it or to relieve the symptoms?

DYSMENORRHOEA, or painful menstruation, is a problem for some women and girls. Its incidence may vary from 3 to 50 per cent of women depending on the community, social class, education and occupation.

It usually starts about 1 or 2 years after puberty. In those who suffer from it and often clear up spontaneously by the time the person has reached 25 years of age. For others it may occur at different times in their lives.

Dysmenorrhoea should not be confused with premenstrual tension, a condition that occurs most frequently in women between 25 and 40 years of age.

The fact that dysmenorrhoea will usually clear up by itself is of little comfort to anyone suffering from painful periods. They may have cramps during the 12 hours previous to the onset of their period, or aching and a bearing down sensation when it starts, with backache, pain descending to the legs, swelling in the abdomen,

tenderness in the breasts, and general irritability.

If a woman or a girl does suffer each month, there is often much that can be done in the way of simple measures to relieve this. Sometimes just taking one to two aspirins 3 or 4 times a day is enough to see her through the first three days which are the most difficult.

Taking care of her general health is another way to help: eating a proper diet that contains an adequate supply of iron, getting enough rest so that she doesn't become overly fatigued, and perhaps adding supplementary multivitamin and minerals tablets if she has gone through a recent illness or other strain on the health.

Outdoor exercise in the fresh air does much to improve muscle tone all over the body, relieves any underlying tension and helps to improve health.

This doesn't mean that everyone who wants to avoid painful periods must take up tennis or go jogging at dawn. Milder forms of exercise can be just as effective if they are followed regularly. A daily walk at a moderate rate for about an hour will do. Gardening is another form of exercise that has the added advantage of improving the ap-

### Health by Joyce Niles

perance of her home—a psychological uplift.

Psychological factors also have influence on this situation. If the young girl has been around older women who experience these problems then she would also expect them. Women do not fully understand the workings of their own bodies need education on this subject. Understanding relieves the worries and fears they carry, allowing a more relaxed attitude to the period.

Other problems such as financial problems, familial stresses, job worries and concern about school studies and tension and generally make life more difficult. If some of these problems can be solved it will help the girl or woman to feel better about her life in general.

The majority of women and girls can find relief from these troubles. But there are a few more severe problems that aren't helped by these means. Sometimes the family doctor can prescribe a course of hormone therapy to regulate the woman's period, or refer her to a specialist. If she feels her trouble is in need of surgery.

Joyce Niles is a member of the American Medical Writers Association.

### Cheese french fries

#### Ingredients

- 6 medium size raw potatoes
- 1 to 4 cups oil
- 1 cup Parmesan cheese grated
- 1/4 cup onion (minced)
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup garlic (minced)

#### Method

- Prepare potatoes as for french fries
- Fry about one cup at a time in hot oil until potatoes are transparent but not browned.
- Remove from oil and drain on absorbent paper
- Toss hot potatoes in cheese and salt
- Place on a baking sheet, sprinkle with onion or garlic salt
- Return potatoes in oven until lightly browned
- Yields 6-8 servings

Chef's corner

### Special passengers for Alia

Alia had some very special passengers recently. The first group of survivors from Sabra and Shatila were taken from Beirut to Amman and on New York for medical treatment and rehabilitation. Alia provided a qualified doctor and nurse to accompany the 14 patients and a special Ya Hilo hostess to cheer them up.

Inflight also arranged Alia gifts for the passengers.

Another group of happy Alia passengers are the winners of the "19 Questions for 19 years" contest. Four thousand three hundred and twelve entries were received for the contest.

The first prize, two return tickets to Bangkok, was won by Mr. Walid Jaber. Second prize winner, Mr. Randa Hajar will receive two return tickets to Madrid, and the third winner, Ms. Hala Nimri will enjoy two return tickets to Rome.

With Amman's weather like it is



Alia Chairman Ali Ghannour draws the prize-winners names



The Jordan Intercontinental hold a cocktail party with a difference this week—in the hotel's flower-bedecked laundry. Some of those invited thought the invitation was so strange they phoned the hotel to make sure there was no mistake.

### Calendar

#### Films

The Spanish Cultural Centre presents "Un Invierno en Mallorca" and "Un Verano en Mallorca"  
Thursday 24 February at 4 pm  
"Amoer en Puerto Ocaña"  
Saturday 26 February at 4 pm  
The British Council presents a film for children "Big Wheels and Sailors"  
Thursday 24 February at 5 pm. The film lasts about 60 minutes.  
The American Centre presents "Breaking Away"  
Thursday 24 February at 4.00 pm  
Sunday 27 February at 6.00 pm  
Monday 28 February at 7.30 pm.

The Goethe Institute presents a film for the children of the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf in Salt, "Ele Kaafar Auf Extratour"  
Monday 28 February at 7.00 PM at the Holy Land Institute

#### Exhibitions

At the American Centre "various Works: 25-27" by Stephen Hayes continues until 28 February  
The French Centre presents "Exposition De Fossiles, Silles, Pierre Taille, Pierre Polle" "La Nuit Des Tamps"  
Saturday 26 February to Sunday 6 March  
The exhibition "Les Matiers D'Art" continues until Thursday 10 March  
The British Council has two book exhibitions  
"Recent books on Civil Engineering" Closes Thursday 24 February

24 FEBRUARY 1983

### Just Between Us

Ya'qoub Salim

### The New Amman

ANOTHER winter or two, and they're going to have to redraw the map of Amman. Considering the devastating effects of the weather on our city's contours (which were obviously formed by a Creator with gentler climes in mind), we will have a whole new set of eminences and depressions to navigate.

Running down the hill from Shmeisani towards Jabal Amman, past Ad-Dustour newspaper and the Holiday Inn, overflowing rainwater has already begun to dig its way into the pavements that were so carefully built along with the Shmeisani Interchange (unlike the forerunner of the new Wadi Dustour that will be the main feature of the landscape in that area soon).

Debris from that wadi, and from the new River Jordan Intercontinental, meets at the middle of the current Wadi Saqra and has already made a good start on the building of Jabal Al-Taqs.

This raises the question of town planning. Seeing that all our Municipality's schemes to improve movement around the town are about to go down the storm sewer with the coming of a new topography, perhaps it is time to think now about how we will get from one Jabal to another in the New Amman.

We will soon return to the good old days, when to get from one point to another you had to pass through city centre.... wherever that will be.

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